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# QUARRIES TO STAY ANOTHER 15 YEARS

By Marion Brennan

**MINING** at two quarries near Cannock will continue for another 15 years to support construction projects in the county, it has emerged.

Pottal Pool Quarry, located within Cannock Chase, and Saredon Quarry, alongside the M6, will continue operating under the move by Staffordshire County Council.

Pottal Pool opened in the 1940s and is used by Hanson Aggregates. Saredon Quarry, which provides gravel and sand, is operated by Bredon Aggregates. Under the plan, Saredon Quarry will also be extended.

Councillor Mike Lawrence, who represents Saredon on the county council, said: "I'm in favour of the principle of the local authority having a 15-year plan. We need quarries to give us jobs, houses and other buildings – and we desperately need infrastructure at the moment."

"It's taken us four years to get to this point after two consultations about the principle and about where future quarries should be, and the plan includes guidelines to protect residents who may live near any of the sites."

The programme of mining proposals for Staffordshire, which was approved by councillors, also includes opening up new sites in the county and sets down guidelines to protect communities from the negative effects of quarrying.

## Independent

The aim is to provide materials to support local construction projects over the next 15 years. The county already has about 50 quarries. The plan was approved at a meeting of the county's full council following a two-year consultation with residents and businesses.

It will now be submitted to the Communities and Local Government Secretary and will also be examined by an independent inspector in the spring or early summer. It is not believed any new sites are planned for South Staffordshire.

County councillor Mark Winnington, cabinet member for economy, environment and transport, said: "Having the plan will help us to balance demand from the industry for more quarries and the need to protect our communities and the environment. Having no plan would make it difficult to turn down planning applications for new quarries."

Staffordshire's minerals sector contributes £255 million to the local economy every year – two per cent of the county's economic output. In 2013, 661 people were employed in the sector with many more in the supply chain and supported industries. The county has one of only 12 cement kilns in the UK – at Cauldon, near Leek – while its only mine, at Fauld, near Tupton, is the main source of anhydrite used in the UK cement industry.

Staffordshire also produces the greatest amount of clay and shale for brick and tile manufacturing compared with any other county.

## BRAVE EVIE LOOKING FORWARD TO A HAPPY 2016



Evie Poole, eight, who suffers from cerebral palsy, is pictured with her father Jonathan celebrating her progress

IT promises to be a happy 2016 for this brave little girl from Cannock.

More than two years ago, Evie Poole underwent a life-changing operation in the hope it would help her walk again unaided.

And 2015 saw the eight-year-old, who has cerebral palsy, make great strides as she continued to surprise her family and doctors with her progress. The youngster walked with the aid of a frame prior to the selective dorsal rhizotomy operation at Leeds General Infirmary hospital in September 2013.

But over the past year, Evie has been able

to get around without the use of the frame and take more steps independently. Her father Jonathan said: "Her walking has come on amazingly. She is walking independently and she is getting about all over the place."

"When we went for her two-year update to see the surgeon he was over the moon. He was pleased with her progress after a year, but after hearing what she has achieved this year he is made up with her progress."

Evie, who now lives in Market Drayton and goes to the town's junior school, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy before her first

birthday. However, hope was in sight when her parents, Jonathan and wife Jayne, found out she was suitable for corrective surgery.

But they were dealt a blow when bosses at South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust rejected their bid to fund a selective dorsal rhizotomy operation, so they decided to fundraise for the £50,000 surgery and started a campaign, which became known as Evie's Butterfly Fund, in February 2013. Within six months, £49,000 was raised.

Her family, who also include brother Will, six, moved from Cannock in the summer.

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## LICENSING

### Police concerns at plans to reopen pub

A RUGELEY pub that has been shut for two years could permanently reopen – but the plans face opposition from the police.

Fourteen jobs were axed when the Glass Works in Brewery Street closed in November 2013 as parent company Bramwell Pubs and Bars went into administration.

Now an application has been made to reopen the site – with a decision to be made by Cannock Chase Council licensing bosses on January 18.

Police had concerns over the proposed 'management structure' at the premises, which will now be raised at the meeting.

## RETAIL

### Tree sales on the Chase are down

CANNOCK Chase's Christmas tree sales were down this year, bosses have revealed.

Bad weather hit sales, resulting in a 10 per cent drop from the previous year. The site at Birches Valley had to close twice due to high winds and rain on what would have been their biggest selling days.

Andy Coggins of the Forestry Commission said: "The safety of our staff and customers has to come first."

• Weather – Page 31

## BUSINESS

### Jobs are lost despite company takeover

AN engineering firm with sites in Burntwood and Brownhills has been bought out of administration but more than 40 jobs have still been lost.

Administrators were called in to Aldridge Fabrications on December 18.

A newly formed group Aldridge Fabrications (AF) Ltd has bought out the firm saving 58 workers' jobs. But the firm's Chase Road site in Brownhills has closed. There were also 34 redundancies at its headquarters in Mount Road, Burntwood.

Administrators cited a reducing income from the mining industry as a major reason for declining income over the years.

## INSIDE

### WILL MAPS OUT HIS NEXT TREK



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Councillor Ben Adams

A TOTAL of 865 investigations into school admission fraud have taken place in the Black Country and Staffordshire over the last three years – 96 per cent of them by just one authority.

An investigation by The Chronicle's sister publication The Express & Star found that Dudley Council looked into 830 potentially fraudulent school place applications between 2012 and 2015, withdrawing 10 places after parents were found to have lied on entry forms.

Over the same period local authorities in Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton conducted just 21 in-

vestigations between them, while Staffordshire County Council launched 14 probes into fraudulent admissions.

Over the last three years 39 youngsters in the Black Country and Staffordshire had school places taken away following investigations.

All cases involved parents lying about their addresses to get a place at their preferred school – including using those of relatives and vacant properties.

Dudley Council conducted the largest number of investigations in the country over the period. The authority matches up the address on applications

with council records for the child, while parents have to provide three pieces of evidence to prove where they are living if the records don't match.

Staffordshire County Council investigated 14 suspected cases and found 11 fraudulent applications.

Councillor Ben Adams, cabinet member for learning and skills, said: "On very rare occasions we do have to investigate claims of false or deliberately misleading information on admission application forms. If a claim is upheld, the offer of a school place will be withdrawn."

# Queen honours the great and the good

UNSUNG heroes from Staffordshire in the Queen's New Year's Honours list were rewarded for their years of dedication and hard work.

From church and school volunteers to renowned musician Goldie and broadcaster Jacqui Oatley, proud recipients are celebrating being recognised.

They were included with thousands more people from across Britain in the list, which was made public on New Year's Eve.

Among them is **Veronica Box**, who has been involved in running the Burntwood Memorial Village Institute since 1969. The 79-year-old, who was a key player in fundraising to upgrade the institute, received a British Empire Medal.

She said: "When I received the envelope I was completely gobsmacked.

"I think it's lovely, and the ladies of the WI deserve this as much as me."

## Delighted

Councillor Brian Edwards, has served as leader of South Staffs Council for 11 years and receives an MBE for services to local government.

Councillor Edwards, from Kinver, was first elected to the authority in 1983 and said he was 'absolutely delighted' with the honour. He has been leader for 11 years and has been the county councillor for South Staffordshire/Kinver division for 25 years.

Councillor Edwards, 75, said: "I'm very proud and look forward to serving the area for another few years."

**Sinead Butters**, chief executive of the Staffordshire-based Aspire Group, has been awarded an OBE for services to housing. The group is a social regeneration business that aims to build affordable homes.

Staffordshire's **Ahmed Jamal Nasir Awan**, chief executive officer of Awan Marketing International, has been given the MBE for services to business and international trade.

The MBE also goes to Great Wyrley's **Janet Burns**, chair of the Na-



Veronica Box BEM – 'when I received the envelope I was gobsmacked'

tional Dignity Council, for services for the Promotion of Dignity in Care for All.

Community man **Robert Mudway** was given a BEM for services to the community in Brocton.

**Stuart Chapman**, development manager at Walsall Tenants and Residents Federation, gets the MBE for services to tenants in Walsall.

Codsall-born broadcaster and life-long Wolves supporter **Jacqui Oatley** has been rewarded for her ground-breaking work with an MBE. She received the gong in honour of

her work to increase the participation of women in football.

**Jacqui**, aged 41, who attended St Dominic's School in Bewdley and Wolverhampton Grammar School, said she was in shock at the news.

In 2007 she became the first female commentator on Match of the Day and has gone on to work for ITV and as a director of the Women in Football group. She follows in the footsteps of her mother Sonja – a former county councillor for Codswall – who received an MBE in 2011.

Walsall-born musician **Goldie**



Councillor Brian Edwards – MBE



Sinead Butters – OBE

says being awarded an MBE is the beginning, not the end, of his achievements.

**Goldie**, whose real name is Clifford Price, was honoured for his contribution to the music, TV and film industries and his charity work.

He was raised in the care system and spent a large part of his youth in Heath Town, Wolverhampton.

He became an honorary doctor of design to recognise his work as a performer and artist. "I turned 50 in September and I've always felt there's more work to do," he said.

# Newcomers sure to be welcomed to our town

A New Year message from Alan Pearson, chairman of Hednesford Town Council

THE last 12 months has seen some exciting developments for us, and these are set to continue long into the new year and beyond. It's great to see new housing taking shape in Hednesford, and I am sure we will give a warm welcome to new residents coming to the town.

There have been fabulous continued improvements at the war memorial, which looks really impressive, and the park. Thanks must go to the Friends of Hednesford Park.

Here's wishing a warm welcome to new retailers on Market Street and other business setting up in the area including Hednesford Animal Hospital.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped with such a brilliant turnout at events throughout the year – including the summer carnival and a very successful Christmas event. Anyone who would like to help with organising events in 2016 should let me know.

Thanks also to all the volunteers and people who care so passionately about Hednesford from so many different organisations. Good to see them joining together with their activities including the launch of Hednesford in Partnership and a well-attended series of tidying-up/litter-picking initiatives.

Please remember that your town council is here to serve you – if you have any comments or questions for us, get in touch.

# Men attacked on their way home

TWO men were attacked while walking home in Chasetown.

One of them, aged 66, suffered severe facial and head injuries and was later said to be in a serious but stable condition in hospital.

The other man, who is 42, also sustained facial injuries but did not need to go to hospital.

The attack happened while the men were walking along Queen Street at its junction with King Street near Chasetown Memorial Park.

It took place just after 1.20am on New Year's Day.

The offenders, both of whom are described as white men, ran off towards Edward Street.

Anyone with information about the incident should call the police on 101.

# Topic for meeting will be motor sport

MEN of Burntwood begin their 2016 season of talks at St Matthews Sports and Social Club on Wednesday at 7.45pm.

The speaker will be Ray Smith, who will be discussing 'Motor Sport and Engineering'. For further details, contact

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# Delight at decision to bring back bus route

A DECISION to reinstate a popular bus route that was scrapped has been welcomed by an MP.

In the summer, Arriva's number 70 service had its route changed so it no longer served Cheslyn Hay, prompting scores of complaints to be made to South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson.

The MP contacted the bus company to see if the service from Cannock to Wolverhampton could revert to its former route.

As part of an ongoing project Arriva has carried out a major overhaul of its routes which serve Staffordshire and parts of the West Midlands.

Before the rerouting, the service, which ran every 30 minutes, took a direct route from Cheslyn Hay, along the A460 from junction 11 of the M6 with a slight diversion for Featherstone residents.

The revised service will once again be serving the residents of Cheslyn Hay.

Mr Williamson said: "I am delighted that Arriva have listened to passenger concerns and are re-routing the number 70 bus back to the former route that passes through Cheslyn Hay."

"Some of the passengers that use the service are elderly or have young children which makes finding an alternative bus route an unlikely option."

"Many residents from Cheslyn Hay rely on this service to get to Wolverhampton and were faced with unnecessary confusion, so I am glad that this issue has been resolved."

## Meetings over traveller sites

PLANS to create a new traveller site and extend another will be the subject of two public meetings.

The proposals envisage a new gipsy site in Long Lane, Newtown, and the extension of the Bursnips Road site. The meetings will be held on January 13 at Wyre Junior FC, in Newtown, and January 18 at 7pm at Essington Community Centre, both at 7pm.

Councillor David Clift, of South Staffordshire Council and Essington Parish Council, said: "Both sites had applied for planning permission to create new sites a number of times over the last two years, which had been refused. However, this is a completely different situation. We have been told by the Government that we need to supply a number of sites and pitches between now and 2028."

## Group to set out for Bleak House

CHASE Ramblers' walk on Sunday is a nine-mile easy/moderate walk at Chasewater and Bleak House.

Start point is the Chase Innovation centre for a prompt 9.30am start. For details call Neil on 01543 270826.

# Pet's ashes stolen in raid on vets



Alistair – favourite pet

BURGLARS who targeted a Hedgesford veterinary practice stole a distinctive urn containing the ashes of the practice's beloved pet gerbil.

Alistair's remains had been kept in the office safe since the revered rodent died from old age about 18 months ago.

But his ashes along with the urn and a quantity of cash were stolen during a raid on Vets 4 Pets in East Cannock Road early on Tuesday, December 21. Distraught staff turned to po-

lice and social media in an effort to locate the ornate palm-sized gold and white urn. A desperate Facebook appeal for information attracted more than 25,000 hits in less than 24 hours, said practice manager Susan Lunn.

The appeal read: "One item taken was identical to this picture. Although the item looks decorative or like it may be worth something financially, it is a small urn (around two inches in length and width) which contains the ashes of our

beloved Alistair, a practice pet."

Ms Lunn, aged 39, said the black gerbil had been gifted to the practice after vets treated him for a short illness seven years ago.

She said: "We all fell in love with him instantly, and the owner said we could keep him."

"All our clients got to know him. He really was part of the team here since we got him as a tiny little ball of fluff." Anyone with information should call the practice on 01543 424100.



The urn is palm-sized

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Boxing legend Eubank in town

BOXING legend Chris Eubank is to make an appearance in Cannock.

The former WBO Middleweight and Super Middleweight Champion will be at Bar Sport's Premier Suite, High Green, on March 3. Joining him on the night will be former WBC Super Middleweight Champion Richie Woodhall.

Bar Sport and Premier Suite owner Scott Murray said: "Chris Eubank was a fantastic boxer. Love him or hate him, he was a tremendous character and an excellent fighter." Tickets are on sale starting at £55. Call the Premier Suite on 01543 572092.

### Bands lining up for weekend gigs

THE Waterfront at Barton Marina has a number of bands booked for the coming weeks.

Capo 4, a Staffordshire-based electro-acoustic trio, will play tomorrow and then Mother Popcorn will be performing their mix of rock, pop, indie and funk on Saturday.

January 15 will see Motorsoul take to the stage, and Rock Dogs will play rock favourites and self-penned numbers the following night.

Bands are booked to play from 10pm until late every weekend. Admission is free.

### Library to build on Lego success

CANNOCK Library is to hold its next Lego Play and Stay on Saturday, January 16 from 10am until midday.

All equipment is supplied, including Duplo bricks for smaller children. The sessions are led by a young volunteer but parents are encouraged to stay with their children while they play.

Further sessions will be held on the following Saturdays: January 30, February 20, March 5 and April 2. For details call 01543 510365 or visit www.staffordshire.gov.uk/libraries

### Wassailing event at wildlife trust base

A TRADITIONAL wassailing ceremony will be held at Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's headquarters on Saturday.

The event at the Wolseley Centre, Wolseley Bridge, between Stafford and Rugeley, will run from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and will include entertainment from Beggar's Oak Clog Dancers and Lichfield Morris Men.

Admission is £1 and includes a craft session to make tree offerings. There will be a procession to the orchard and people are advised to bring a torch.

**Soap stars at Garrick**  
TWO former Emmerdale stars will appear at the Lichfield Garrick next month. Natasha Gray and Kevin Pilkington play the lead roles in Alan Ayckbourn's Round and Round the Garden. It is being shown from February 8-10 at 7.30pm each night. Tickets cost between £17 and £19.



Will Bryan, who has completed numerous cycle challenges and marathons for charity, and is about to start another epic fundraiser

## Blood, sweat and tyres for cause

A CANNOCK adventurer and fundraiser is mapping out his next challenge – looking and wants people to give blood for the cause.

Will Bryan, aged 30, from Bridgtown, ran up the country's highest mountains, spent a week homeless and rowed and cycled more than 100 miles in 11 days to help raise money for four-year-old cerebral palsy sufferer Aimee Heath in 2015.

This year, he will cycle 1,800 miles from John O'Groats to Barcelona over four weeks, while sleeping rough, to encourage more people to donate to NHS Give Blood.

Van driver Mr Bryan, who made a New Year's Resolution to take on charity challenges in 2015, said: "I was just terrified of asking people for money again."

"I have a very dedicated group of supporters who gave up a lot of their money over the last year and I thought giving blood was a good way around that."

"I am in the process of mapping out my journey."

To donate blood in honour of Mr Bryan's upcoming challenge, visit [www.will-bryan.com/](http://www.will-bryan.com/)

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



HERE it is. Another bright, shiny and totally unspoiled New Year. So who's going to muck it up, then? Prediction - having pledged untold millions for flood defences, David Cameron landed with the worst drought since 1976.

HOW many of the media organisations condemning Oliver Letwin for his views on black people in the 1985 riots have taken a long, hard look into their own archives? Letwin's assumptions and language may seem shocking today but they were common enough 30 years ago. A trawl through the 1985 output of newspapers, radio and TV might produce a crop of red faces.

AFTER sticking faithfully with BBC1 through three episodes of *And Then There Were None*, the same old question about Agatha Christie's plots won't go away. How on earth did we make a national treasure out of a woman who peddled such implausible tosh?

A READER offers a new social measure. If you're still proud of owning your own house and your own car, he says, then you're definitely working class.

IT is weird enough seeing daffs sprouting and songbirds canoodling in this balmy winter. The really bizarre and unpleasant thing is the sight of so many blotchy blokes wearing shorts. Oh, dear.

THE New Year kicked off with a dark warning that "dozens of moderate Labour MPs" are prepared to quit Parliament rather than serve under Jeremy Corbyn?



Oh, yeah? And do what? There are few jobs that pay £60,000 a year plus expenses, particularly if your only qualification is as a party activist and bag-carrying. If 50 Labour MPs quit tomorrow, 1,000 Corbyn-loyal candidates would instantly step forward. The truth, beyond the worst imaginings of many Labour politicians this time last year, is that Corbyn has not only won the party leadership but is not making a bad job of it.

WE live in the age of the drone. These flying machines fitted with video cameras bring us unrivalled coverage of everything from gardening programmes to the TV news and are superb at capturing the extent of the floods. For a few quid, producers now have access to camera-angles that used to involve booking a helicopter and film crew for a whole day at ruinous expense. Good news for the programme makers and the TV viewers. Bad news, presumably, for the helicopter industry.

DRIVERS are celebrating the price of petrol falling below £1 per litre. I reflect sadly on the day I decided I had to sell my wonderful old Rover 110 because petrol had just hit 50p per gallon.

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# Persimmon in £1k award to riders

A CASH donation by housebuilder Persimmon Homes West Midlands will keep a team of emergency motorcyclists on the road for a month. The Shropshire and Staffordshire Blood Bikes Charity has been awarded £1,000 from the firm's Community Champions fund.

The sum is the equivalent to the fuel bill the charity faces each month. The group is the latest organi-

sation to receive funding from the housebuilder. In total, £24,000 will be donated by Persimmon Homes' West Midlands region by March. It is a slice of £750,000 that is being given away by the company nationally.

Helen Bundy, who applied to the Community Champions fund on behalf of the charity, said: "We are a charity run by volunteers and not funded. We transport by highly vis-

ible motorbikes, free of charge for the NHS, samples, blood, platelets, meningitis fluid, bone marrow samples, donated breast milk for premature babies and much more between hospitals across Shropshire and Staffordshire."

"Our fuel bill per month is presently £1,000 and we need to run and maintain our bikes. Through sheer hard work our volunteers have raised

sufficient money to fund three new bikes, the others are secondhand. Our hope this coming year is to update our fleet."

Persimmon Homes West Midlands director Tim Brickey said: "Shropshire and Staffordshire Blood Bikes' volunteers clearly offer a much-needed service for people who are at their most vulnerable and we are more than happy to support them."

## Nationalise M6 Toll call 'to attract more drivers'

THE M6 Toll should be nationalised or handed to another company to manage, a Conservative MP has said.

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson has written to Roads Minister Andrew Jones asking him to explore possible nationalisation.

Mr Williamson said: "This road is a vital artery in the West Midlands economy and plays an important role in reducing congestion and creating economic development opportunities.

"I think if in the future an opportunity became available in order to bring the M6 Toll into public ownership it is something which should be looked at.

"A new approach has to be taken to the M6 Toll which encourages people to use it," Mr Williamson added.

"This would involve making it accessible and cheaper for people to use, which would provide a great benefit and significantly alleviate congestion on the M6 and access onto the M5."

The 27-mile M6 Toll, from Cannock to Coleshill, is Britain's first pay-to-drive motorway.

The operator of the M6 Toll recorded a loss of £28.6 million last year despite an increase in use. It has come in for heavy criticism for its prices.

M6 Toll chief executive Andy Pearson said: "We are unable to comment upon communications which we are not aware of and have not seen.

"However, I would be delighted to speak directly with any local MPs who would wish to gain a better understanding of our business."

• Response - Page 15

## Leader's vow to protect beauty spots



Natalie Bennett is opposing any potential sell-off of countryside assets, including Chasewater, where she met supporters

THE leader of the Green Party has vowed to target Cannock Chase this year in the local elections.

Natalie Bennett met with local party members for a walk around Chasewater.

Last year the party saw a surge in popularity culminating in its best ever result in the general election, achieving 1,157,613 votes - 45,881 more than they had managed cumulatively since their first election in 1974.

This year the leader has declared the party's main objective is to turn votes into seats, and when asked whether Cannock with its natural beautiful surroundings was an area which would be targeted, her response was 'very much so'.

"West Midlands has been our strongest growth area in terms of local councils," she said. "There is a real sense

that the councils need to be shaken up. I think the Green Party is a model representative of local campaign groups and grassroots organisations."

A third of seats will be up for grabs on Cannock Chase this year at the next local election, in May.

Last year the Greens launched a campaign to oppose any potential sell-off of countryside assets including Chasewater and Cannock Chase.

Ms Bennett said: "What I have been hearing from talking with local people walking around Chasewater is that the councils, both district and county, are not accountable. People don't see their councillors, they don't get a positive response when they write to them.

"There is not a feeling that councillors are serving the communities the way that they should be."

## Factory warehouse extension on cards

A BROWNHILLS factory is set to be expanded after proposals were approved by Walsall planners.

Castings, which is based in Lichfield Road, has been given the go-ahead for a warehouse extension as well as underground car parking which will create an additional 50 car parking spaces. Plans will also see a new turning area for trucks which will also provide a waiting area for loading.

The extension to the warehouse will measure 148ft by 276ft and also have a full-length canopy of 33ft by 276ft for picking and loading.

The car park will mainly be for office staff and will also give vehicles added security, planning documents state. New figures have revealed a boost in sales and profits at the foundry.

## Zeppelin attack is the subject of talk

NORTON Canes Historical Society will meet on Tuesday between 7 and 9pm at the village's library.

Guest speaker is historian Ian Bott, whose talk is 'The Midlands Zeppelin Outrage', to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Zeppelin attack.



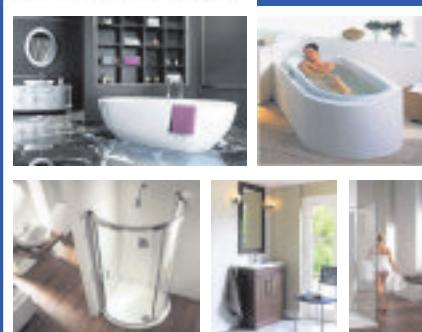
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# Plans 'will do nothing' for homes shortage

A LARGE new housing estate in Cannock is set to be given the green light by planning chiefs despite having no low-cost properties.

Development officers have recommended that plans for 93 homes at the former Parker Hannifin site in Bridgtown should go ahead when it is discussed by councillors.

The district council's housing policy means a development of such size would have to deliver around 19 affordable homes - 20 per cent - but developers Schroder Property Investment Management have claimed it would make the site too expensive.

Councillor Paul Witton, who represents Cannock South, called for the plans to be thrown out.

He said: "I am absolutely against private housing there, I am totally opposed to it, it should be refused. It ought to have social housing. We have got a housing crisis in Cannock with over 1,000 people on the waiting list."

"The list is just going up and up and up. It's all very well having private sector housing if people can afford it. There is no affordable housing in Cannock. It is the young generation I feel sorry for - there is just no hope for them. The Government are selling all of the housing stock off. Under-21s can't get housing benefits. I don't know where it is going to end."

Parker Hannifin closed its factory at the site around eight years ago with the loss of 140 jobs.

Carillion has also occupied the land for office, storage and parking while engineers carry out works on the M6.

## Man, 73, arrested over child images

A 73-YEAR-OLD man from Cannock has been arrested for viewing indecent images of children.

Staffordshire Police confirmed the suspect was the latest detained as part of Operation Safenet, a force-wide crackdown targeting paedophiles who target youngsters over the internet.

In six months, there have been nearly 60 arrests made as part of the police operation.

It has also helped to identify 90 children who have been the victim of online sexual exploitation.

Police have tracked down the suspects by targeting people who view and share indecent images over the internet as well as those who make contact or communicate with children directly via the internet.

## Cash and presents grabbed from cars

MONEY and presents were stolen from two cars in Cannock.

House keys and cash were taken from a vehicle in Lakeside Park, while the presents were removed from the boot of a car parked in Wilton Close.

# Postcards collection to go under hammer



Some of the postcards to be auctioned

A HUGE collection of local interest postcards has just arrived at Lichfield based Richard Winterton Auctioneers.

The cache of postcards from a local collector consists of approximately 300 early 20th Century scenes in and around Lichfield and Whittington, depicting popular landmarks and beauty spots.

Postcards are highly collectable, with most sought after being postcards that show 'town views' - actual scenes from a particular town or region. Most collectors of town views

start by collecting views of the town where they reside or the town where they grew up.

With many small towns having hundreds of different cards available, it is an area that can keep a collector busy for years.

### Scenes

The hottest cards on the market in the town view category are 'real photograph postcards' - postcards printed on actual photographic paper using the photographic process rather than printed cards created on a print-

ing press. A number of artists have become recognised for the creation of postcards, and certain publishers specialise in the production and can be highly collectable amongst deltiologists.

The postcards collection at Richard Winterton Auctioneers contains scenes such as the city's Beacon Park, Bird Street, Tamworth Street, The Old St Chads Well and Lichfield Cathedral.

The postcards are due to be sold on January 20 at the Lichfield Sale-rooms, in Cross Keys, Lichfield.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Club gives charity group a £2k boost

THE Cannock fundraising group of the Marie Curie charity started the new year £2,000 better off thanks to a donation from a social club.

The money was raised by staff and customers of Cheslyn Hay Community and Sports Club through various fundraising events.

Regular customer 'Nelly' raised more than £300 towards the total by completing a sponsored no-drinking weekend. Margaret Perry of the Marie Curie fundraising group thanked everyone who organised the fundraising drive and those who donated.

### Hoard to be taken out for a clean-up

THE Staffordshire Hoard collection at the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke is to undergo a clean-up.

It will not be on display from January 14 to 26. Visitors will still be able to visit the Anglo-Saxon Kingdom of Mercia gallery in which selected items from its collection of Anglo-Saxon finds are featured.

The Staffordshire Hoard was discovered by metal detectorist Terry Herbert from Burntwood at a field in Hammerwich on July 5, 2009.

It was the largest ever hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold to be uncovered.

### Stay alert plea on raids spree

WARNINGS to stay alert have been issued after a spate of thefts in Cannock. Police received reports of thefts from vehicles and house burglaries.

Among the burglaries, offenders smashed a ground-floor window at a property in Victoria Street before making off with two iPads, a mobile phone and charger, a television, house keys and a rucksack.

Staffordshire Police spokesman Ronnie Turner said: "Please warn your neighbours to be on their guard."

### Christine to launch new jazz gig series

A NEW monthly series of jazz shows will kick-off on Wednesday.

Irish-born singer-songwriter Christine Tobin will open the new programme at the Lichfield Garrick.

The first show will be followed by a performance by Partikel's String Theory on February 17.

To see the full line-up of jazz nights, visit [www.lichfieldgarrick.com](http://www.lichfieldgarrick.com).

Tickets cost £12 and are available from the box office on 01543 412121 or can be booked online.

### Burglars take jewellery

JEWELLERY and electrical goods were stolen during a daylight burglary in Burntwood Road, Norton Canes. The thieves smashed a kitchen window to get into the property and made an untidy search before fleeing with the items. The incident happened on Wednesday last week.

# Hero remortgages his home to pay for legs

"I feel betrayed" - they are the words of Sapper Clive Smith, who lost his legs to a roadside bomb in Afghanistan and says he has been forced to mortgage his home to pay £90,000 for new artificial limbs.

The former soldier, from Cannock, has battled for 12 months to get the surgery on the NHS and says he cannot afford to wait any longer.

Sapper Smith, who was the face of the 2012 Poppy Appeal, lost his legs after attempting to defuse a bomb which exploded during an operation in 2010.

"I need to move on with my life," he said.

"If I wait for treatment on the NHS, I could be waiting a very long time. I cannot put my life on hold any longer," he said. Sapper Smith, who now lives in Pelsall with his partner Jen Price, is flying to Australia this month for what he calls 'life-changing' surgery.

The new limbs will take the form of titanium rods bonded to his bone, and offer the promise of 'natural' walking. He was fitted with artificial legs on his return to the UK but these have caused painful chafing and blistering, leaving him confined to a wheelchair.

He said he feels let down not only by the health service but by defence chiefs who promised veterans better care when their military duties were over.

It comes after Sapper Smith hit out at rules which see thousands of injured former servicemen and women having to give up compensation cash to pay for their own social care.

The 30-year-old Wolves fan has been with Jen, 29, a marketing manager for the power company Aggreko, for two years.

The pair, who knew each other as pupils at Cannock Chase High School, met up again on social media and love blossomed. She will take a six-week break from her job to accompany him to Sydney for the osseointegration surgery which will be carried out by an Iraqi doctor who fled Saddam Hussein's regime.

Help For Heroes is funding their flights. He said: "I'm feeling good about it. I just want it done as quickly as possible." The NHS said it was 'disappointed' to hear of Mr Smith's experience. A spokesman added: "Providing excellent care for war veterans is a priority."

## Dance led to 60 years of marriage



Cannock couple Patricia and James Powell have celebrated 60 years of marriage

A COUPLE who settled in the West Midlands after taking early retirement more than 20 years ago have celebrated their diamond wedding.

Patricia and James Powell, of Pye Green, moved to the region 24 years ago after growing up, falling in love and marrying in Kent.

The couple, who met at a dance when Patricia was 18 and James was 19, have three children, four grandchildren and five

great-grandchildren. They married on New Year's Eve 1955 and celebrated their anniversary with a family meal, attended by more than 20 relatives.

Patricia, 81, said: "We have had our arguments but never anything massive, we have always been a happy couple."

James, 82, said: "Our love has kept us going for so long, I would be 200 per cent lost without Patricia."



The couple's wedding day

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Stolen medals are back after 41 years



Found after four decades – some of the stolen medals now back in the hands of the Staffordshire Regiment Museum

HISTORIC war medals stolen from a museum have been returned to their rightful home – more than 40 years after the theft. A total of 43 medals belonging to members of Staffordshire regiments were stolen from the Lichfield City Museum in 1974. The medals belonged to the Staffordshire Regiment Museum at Whittington Barracks near Lichfield and had been loaned to the museum.

Forty one years later, staff at the regiment museum spotted some of the medals on sale at a militaria market and were able to negotiate with the new owners to allow all 25 of the medals they came across to be returned to the museum.

Bosses continue to search for the remaining 18 medals that were stolen in the raid in 1974. Museum spokesman James Whittaker said: "This unexpected return is a true occasion for celebration, bringing the history of so many acts of heroism back to a museum dedicated to celebrating and commemorating the fighting men of the regiment."

The Staffordshire Regiment Museum had lent the medals to the Lichfield City Museum, which is no longer in existence, as part of a campaign to promote the regiment's history. The selection covered all of the overseas campaigns where Staffordshire regiments were deployed.



James Whittaker

# Hospitals get £3m in wills and fundraising

HOSPITAL charities in Staffordshire and the Black Country received more than £3 million through fundraising, donations and legacies during the past 12 months.

Some of the money paid for medical equipment, refurbishing wards and on staff training. Cash was also spent on making patients more comfortable.

By Heather Large

able to support the new teams in the new midwife birthing centre and the new children's emergency centre through new artwork, which has really brought the new facilities to life."

During the past year Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust received a total of £93,079 in donations to its charitable fund, plus legacies totalling £185,717 to the cancer fund and general purposes fund.

The hospital trust has benefited from fundraising events including the October Grand Night Out organised by Cheslyn Hay businessman and lung cancer patient Jack Moody who raised £25,000 to buy a medical thoracoscopy machine.

"We have also been able to support equipment that will improve patient experience.

"This includes patient recliners in the discharge lounge and mobility aids in elderly care and the acute stroke unit.

"We're also particularly proud that we have been

## Technology

Charity manager Steve Rushton said: "This fantastic support is making a huge difference, especially at County Hospital.

"We have been able to fund new technology, such as a diagnostic imaging systems for endoscopy.

"We have also been able to support equipment that will improve patient experience.

"This includes patient recliners in the discharge lounge and mobility aids in elderly care and the acute stroke unit.

"We're also particularly proud that we have been

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## 8 Fines like these are of no use

# Attack on the poor is unfair strategy

RE the letter from Mr A Allport ("Policies need to have a sustainable footing", December 24), his comment that the benefit system got out of control under the last Labour government is, in my opinion, a smokescreen to try and cover up the damage the Tories are doing to the very fabric of society by punishing the poor for the mistakes of the rich.

Because of government cuts and caps on welfare, homelessness has increased 55 per cent since 2010 and

80 per cent of those are now suffering from mental illness, which in my view is a disgrace in one of the richest countries in the world. While the rich are being allowed to increase their wealth by vast amounts, Osborne's attack on the poor is a strategy that is unfair and not working. Tax receipts are down and government borrowing is up.

One person's spending is another person's income, and while austerity is being forced on those who can least afford it, we will never achieve a thriving economy with good job prospects and reasonable pay for all.

Let us not forget, even Margaret Thatcher recognised that ordinary people's spending power was an important component in producing growth.

She took a huge amount of people off unemployment benefit and put them on invalidity, which helped create the so-called benefit culture Mr Allport blames on the last Labour government.

PAUL WITTON  
Cannock

## New-look play area will need protecting

CONGRATULATIONS to everyone involved in the Hedgesford Park development. However, when I took my two grandchildren, aged three and six, it was a different story.

The facility was being used by families with young children, even though it was a cold, wet day.

The downside was about 20-plus teenagers in groups who it seems were there to intimidate youngsters, wreck the equipment and sit under the slides smoking and drinking. These groups had obviously come directly from school.

If I had spent two million, I would certainly employ staff to give it some protection. This cost will far outweigh maintenance and repair bills that will soon be rolling in.

A question to police: would anyone have come to take names and move these people on? I did make myself known, and a few of the youths left via the flower beds, but at 72 I'm a little past my prime for serious confrontation.

C WHITEHEAD  
Rugeley

## No mention of former chief

RE the Stafford Hospital saga, under which the judge appears to want to draw a line.

No mention of the former chief executive Mr Martin Yeates. I wonder why?

K FAIRHEAD

## Group set to visit war cemeteries

# Council will push for rail improvements

I AM glad to see that our local MP has belatedly decided to try to do something about our overcrowded trains.

The passenger numbers on the Chase Line have grown each year but the train operators have not increased the number or size of trains. Ms Milling is clearly Aidan Burley Mk 2 as she blames Cannock Chase Council for this. Why? Surely not because Cannock Chase is Labour controlled?

That could be why she hasn't blamed the transport authority that is responsible for the train services and which happens to be Tory-controlled Staffordshire County Council. Cannock Chase Council is the only district council in England that helps to subsidise the local rail system.

Cannock Chase Council and rail user groups are pressuring the operator to improve the service.

GEORGE ADAMSON  
Leader of Cannock Chase Council

## People power had the desired effect on vote

FURTHER to the letter from Councillor Adamson ("Beautiful spot is too important to sell", December 24) I would like to point out that it was "people power" that forced the council to back down. Nearly 12,000 people signed the petition, and those voices could not be ignored. As the instigator of the petition and coordinator of Cannock Chase Green Party, I can say we are, of course, delighted that latterly Councillor Adamson and others joined our cause.

Further we would welcome a similar motion to be passed by our district council to protect the countryside estate and green spaces to which they have stewardship.

PAUL WOODHEAD  
Cannock Chase Green Party

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# Snapping the Chase is second nature to Neal

IT started with 12 wildlife photographs posted on Facebook – but within two weeks an amateur snapper has started selling his own calendar.

Without any real self-promotion Tesco worker Neal McIntosh has made a bit of a name for himself by taking stunning pictures with his £100 second-hand camera on Cannock Chase.

Now the 50-year-old admits his hobby has become a bit of an addiction and he is finding every minute to snap out for a few snaps.

He said: "I put some stuff on Facebook for the hell of it because I like to see people's reactions.

"Then I put 12 shots on – one for each month – which I liked and one of my friends said I should do a calendar," he added.

## Ordered

"I was in two minds whether to do it at first but I have been badgered into it."

"A few people said put me down for one but before I knew it I had shifted the first batch of 26."

"But at that point I hadn't had the money to put anything together so they had those completely on trust in my work."

"I ordered another batch of 14 and all of those have gone as well."

The calendars have been put together by a firm in Ireland at a cost of £6.50 each, meaning that Neal has made next to nothing on sales, shifting them at £9 not including any postage fees.

But at the moment he is happy to simply share his work with other people.

The father of one moved back to Stafford about three years ago after living in Spain's Basque Country. Since then he has sent pictures regularly to Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. He said deer were among his favourite subjects to capture as well as insects, particularly bees, which he photographs near where he lives by Radford Bank.

He said: "At first I was nervous about doing the calendar but now I am quite excited because I just don't



Neal McIntosh with his 2016 wildlife calendar, which is on sale now



A dragonfly enjoys a brief rest



A mother deer and her fawn

know where this is going to take me. I would like to think I could do something more with this.

"People appear to have confidence in my photos."

Anyone wishing to purchase a calendar can email Neal at argazkimac@gmail.com and follow him at Argazki Mac on Facebook.



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## Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

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## Gym in good shape for awards bid



Staff and members at a Cannock gym are in with a chance of winning national awards. Four women have been presented with nomination certificates by Gymophobics which secures them a place at the chain's national awards ceremony. Since the Cannock gym opened in January, its members have between them lost a total of 2,184lb and 2,226in during 2015. It has also doubled its number of instructors to cope with demand and has opened a beauty therapy suite. The nominated members, who have lost a combined total of more than 10st and 124in between them, are Alison Phillips in the 18-40 Slimmer Of The Year category; Dawn Homer, 41-54; and Jackie Bayliss for Most Inspirational Member. Leigh Winter has been nominated for Instructor Of The Year.

## £1.2m work at cathedral

LICHFIELD Cathedral has been saved from having to close after a £1.2 million overhaul of its electrics.

The 800-year-old Gothic structure's 1950s lighting and wiring system was so archaic the Lichfield Diocese was told it would have to close its doors unless urgent work was carried out.

A £800,000 government grant went towards the project which is now in its final stages. All the electrics have been replaced with a new wiring system and three mains electricity systems have been combined into one.

A new LED lighting system has been installed with new outside lighting put

in place around The Close. Jason Dyer, development director at the cathedral, said: "The cathedral has had to be completely rewired because the last time the electrics were renewed was in the 1950s. We had to embark on this major work because it was potentially unsafe and we would have had to close which would have been disastrous."

"The lighting is now much better. The old lighting was quite harsh and over the years we were unable to replace the bulbs because they were no longer manufactured and the cathedral was getting progressively darker."

"The new lighting is sympathetic to the cathedral's architecture so is much more impressive. LEDs have also been used so they will last for longer and are more efficient and environmentally friendly."

The £800,000 grant was the biggest awarded by the First World War Centenary Cathedral Repairs Fund launched by Chancellor George Osborne. The last time the cathedral closed was during a Civil War siege in the 1600s. "The work has been a huge task," said Mr Dyer.

The Very Reverend Adrian Dorber, Dean of Lichfield, said: "Lichfield Cathedral is hundreds of years old, and the last time it had to close its doors to the public was during a Civil War siege. The possibility of closure was heart-breaking."

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## A warming welcome at soup kitchen

SI Cannock & District

EACH Christmas, SI of Cannock & District get involved in several projects to support. One of these projects is the Christmas lunch at the Warming Welcome Soup Kitchen, at Mill Street Methodist Church.

A number of ladies from the church run the soup kitchen on a weekly basis throughout the year, providing a hot meal for those who otherwise wouldn't have one. At the beginning of December club members, led by Soroptimist Carole Holdcroft, join them to provide a three-course Christmas lunch and tea and mince pies which is partly funded by the Soroptimist club.

This time around was no exception - Carole and several other club members prepared, cooked and served a meal complete with Christmas crackers and all the trimmings to more than 50 people.

Soroptimists also support women internationally and each year Cannock members support the International President's December 10th Appeal - in 2015 to Educate to Lead: Nepal.

The appeal harnesses the power and generosity of Soroptimists all over the world in support of women and girls in Nepal, as they take steps to rebuild their lives, following the devastating earthquakes of April 25 and May 12, 2015. The focus within Nepal will be on education and leadership.

Cannock club members make donations in lieu of sending each other Christmas cards and more than £180 was raised.



From left, Doug Smith, Pam Smith, Vivienne Wool and Pam Gabbitas

Cannock Friends of Katharine House

YOU'VE heard of 'KFC' - meet 'CFK' - Cannock Friends of Katharine House; a support group which will raise vital funds to invest in the future of Katharine House.

Formed in August last year, the founder members are: Vivienne Wool, Doug Smith, Pam Smith and Pam Gabbitas, with more waiting to come on board. The group is already planning a 'black tie' charity auction at Sandon Hall on October 15, the proceeds from which will be used to pay for a day of care at Katharine House.

By aiming to raise £7,400 the group would like to cover the cost of care for all patients using hospice services on Christmas Day 2016. They recently held a tutored

wine tasting evening sponsored by Majestic Wines on November 27 at Pillaton Nurseries which raised £211. A race night is being planned for the spring/summer of 2016.

The group meets at Cannock Community Fire Station on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm.

For more about Cannock Friends of Katharine House contact via email at cfk2408@hotmail.com or call at Cannock Community Fire Station on the first Tuesday every month at 7.45pm.

Twenty choir members sang a melody of popular songs, beginning with Amazing Grace - and their singing was certainly amazing

and strength gained from being together.

During the interval choir members mingled with guests to chat and answer any questions.

The second part of the programme was a Christmas section including popular carols. A wonderful evening concluded with a surprise visit from Santa.

## Choir performance amazing

Trefoil Guild Staffordshire

ing as members listened in silence to their performance.

In between songs members shared their experiences of not only being a member of the choir but also what it is like being a military wife and of the emotional and physical support

around 150 members of Trefoil Guild, Staffordshire and Girlguiding members attended a Christmas Social evening to enjoy a musical performance by Stafford Military Wives Choir.

Twenty choir members sang a melody of popular songs, beginning with Amazing Grace - and their singing was certainly amazing

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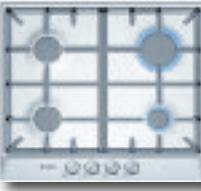


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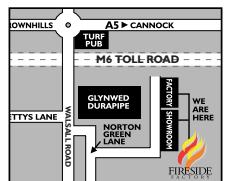
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# Zombie drama is a Dead cert

DVD

by Leon Burakowski

**Fear The Walking Dead (18)**  
FANS of the hit TV series The Walking Dead were eager to view its spin-off show Fear The Walking Dead but many were left disappointed this summer when it made its debut on pay-to-view BT, rather than joining the roster on Sky via the Fox channel.

However, Season One of the AMC show is now available on DVD and Blu-ray, nicely timed to plug the mid-season break in Season Six of The Walking Dead. Last month that left fans with a cliffhanger as Rick Grimes and co pushed their way through a horde of zombies after taking the yukky but literally gutsy option of covering themselves in walker viscera to avoid being sniffed out.

FTWD takes fans of the tense horror-survivalist drama right back to the beginning of the zombie apocalypse. But whereas the original series had cop Rick (Brit actor Andrew Lincoln) wake up in an apparently deserted Georgia hospital with the normal world having already collapsed, the promise of the new series is that we get to see the monster plague unfold on the streets of Los Angeles.

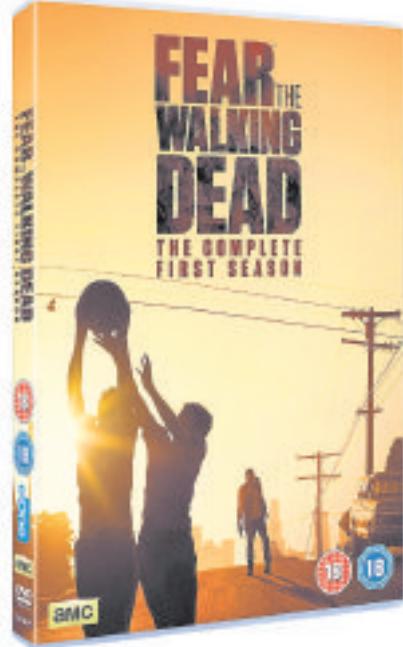
## Mayhem

But FTWD is very slow to get out of the blocks and doesn't unleash the sort of mayhem we have come to expect from its parent show until the last of its six episodes. This is partly because half the series is spent in a 'safe zone' cordoned-off by an increasingly Fascist-like US Army.

Instead we get to know a rather difficult-to-like Californian 'blended' family with a former drug addict mom turned school counsellor mollycoddling her junkie son (who is the first to encounter a zombie in the tense opening scene), his cynical sister and their new dad torn between them and his own son. These characters are all played by very capable actors. These include Kim Dickens (Deadwood, Treme) who finally realises the gravity of the situation when she has to batter her school principal, and young British actor Frank Dillane (Tom Riddle in Harry Potter) who spends a lot of time shuffling around LA like a pseudo-zombie in his cream-coloured Harrington jacket.

FTWD is about half as good as its addictive parent show, which has won a dedicated fan base, but that will probably be good enough to ensure its success, and another season is already in the pipeline.

Other new releases include the second series of BBC Four's *Detective* (15), a sitcom written, directed and starring Mackenzie Crook (from *The Office*). The story of a pair of metal detector enthusiasts begins with our hapless heroes just inches from a buried hoard of ancient treasure



The zombie apocalypse hits LA in *Fear The Walking Dead* but, of course, Andy (Crook) and Lance (Toby Jones) head in the wrong direction. Detectives are as gentle as the rolling green countryside our amateur archaeologists spend their time bumbling around. The first series and a boxed set of the two is also available on DVD.

One of the great concert movies, *Stop Making Sense*, has been restored for DVD and Blu-ray more than 30 years after its original release. It captures influential American band Talking Heads at the peak of their powers as director Jonathan Demme includes iconic images from frontman David Byrne's understated arrival performing Psycho Killer with a boom box, to surreal scenes dancing with a lampshade and appearing inside a giant suit.

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# Donation will cut response time



From left, Rachel Barron, Eddie Malpass, both Burntwood and District CFR, Karen Johnstone MEL social committee member, Maxine Monk from Rapid Aid, Andrea Richards of Burntwood and District CFR, Ann Peters (Brewood), Keith Dawson (TAME), Mark Walker (Trent Valley), Matthew Heward, community response manager for Staffordshire, Mike Tym (Penkridge & District), Sean Cooper, Fay Cooper, both Rugeley CFR, and Paul Dadge (Burntwood and District CFR)

COMMUNITY First Responders will be able to get to incidents faster thanks to staff at M6 Toll operators Midland Expressway Ltd (MEL).

The company has provided them with pre-paid tags which allow drivers to use a dedicated lane on the motorway, usually without the need to stop.

Community First Responders are volunteers who set out to reach people in medical emergencies in rural areas possibly before the arrival of an ambulance. Rachel Graffy, com-

munity response manager with West Midlands Ambulance Service, said: "This offer of support is great news."

Tags were presented to a number of local CFRs including those from Burntwood and District, Rapid Aid, Brewood, TAME, Trent Valley, Penkridge & District and Rugeley.

Karen Johnstone, MEL's social committee member, said: "Using the M6 Toll as an alternative route to their destination could save crucial time and save lives." The tags are fitted to windscreens and usually cost £1 per month.

## Extra beds to ease A&E strain

DOZENS of extra hospital beds have been made available in Staffordshire to relieve anticipated pressure on A&E departments in the coming months.

The University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, which runs County Hospital and Royal Stoke, has invested £2 million in extra beds and hospital services in preparation for the winter. Thirty six additional beds at Royal Stoke have been earmarked as 'winter beds'.

There will also be an increased number of 'isolation' beds at the site to help contain any outbreaks of flu

and norovirus to prevent the possible closure of wards.

As an extra measure, more than 50 beds have been made available at community hospitals in Stoke, and Leek.

The trust announced a number of measures as part of its 'winter planning' in order to prevent a repeat of last year which saw long waiting times at A&E and the cancellation and postponement of less urgent operations.

Bosses said they have been putting plans in place all year to cope in the next few months. One of the major objectives has been an ongoing recruitment

of staff including employing nurses from the Philippines, Spain and Italy. Other winter measures include £1million spent in Ambulatory Emergency Care Centres and funding to provide an extra 300 hours of home care in Staffordshire.

But patients have also been urged to do their bit to alleviate pressure on A&E. Marcus Warnes, accountable officer for North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Remember, A&E is for serious, life-threatening conditions that need immediate medical attention."



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## 16 Pupils put their energy into drama workshop



Year 6 pupils taking part in the project at Hob Hill Primary School in Rugeley

PUPILS at a school in Rugeley took part in a project run by a utility firm,

The day-long drama workshop called Play in a Day by E.ON took a group of Year 6 pupils at Hob Hill Primary School through a variety of tasks while exploring the subject of energy.

Headteacher Ben Preston said: "This was a new activity for us, and the children really took to it and enjoyed getting into character. It was a good mix of facts and fun, and per-

forming the play was a great way to get the children thinking about what energy is and how important it is to us all."

Alison Gibson, senior community relations executive at E.ON, said: "We developed Play in a Day because we understand that energy can be a dry subject, particularly for primary school pupils.

"But by taking part, the children really do get the chance to look at the

topic of saving energy in depth, and they all seem to enjoy performing at the end of the day."

Since 2013, E.ON's Play in a Day has visited more than 50 schools and over 1,500 pupils have taken part.

As well as Play in a Day, E.ON also offers educational activities through its Energy Experience programme which has been created to help teachers working with youngsters aged five to 16.

# M6 roadworks delayed by yet another month

LONG-RUNNING M6 roadworks which have caused two years of disruption have been delayed and will not finish until the end of January.

Highways England has blamed 'technical issues' for the hold-up of the £87.5 million Smart Motorway project between junctions 10a for the M54 and 13 for Stafford.

The scheme, which has imposed a 50mph speed limit on the stretch since October 2013, was due to be finished at the end of December.

A Highways England spokesman said: "At the moment it is looking like the end of January. We are doing extra testing on some of the technology under the road surface.

"Safety has to be our main priority and all of the testing is around



Congestion on the M6 near junction 10a

the safety of the system. We realise we are taking a hit to our reputation however we would rather be 100 per cent certain the technology is working properly than racing to re-open the motorway [at national speed] when the job has not been done properly."

An estimated 120,000 vehicles a day travel between junctions 10a and 13 and the project will introduce a raft of measures to alleviate congestion.

Road sensors have been installed underneath the highway surface to monitor the volume of traffic and how fast vehicles are travelling.

These will work in tandem with overhead gantries which impose temporary speed limits when necessary to improve the flow of traffic or if there is an accident. Hard shoulders will also be used as running lanes to expand the capacity of the road.

The Highways England spokesman said: "It is virtually impossible with any large infrastructure programme to fix an exact completion time.

"For instance with road resurfacing something as simple as rain can absolutely ruin a night shift. One month's delays can easily turn into two."

• Potholes – Page 27

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## Cannock

Avon Business & Leisure  
Centre, Jack Holsten Suite,  
Avon Road, Cannock  
(next to Asda)  
10am \*Morning Group\*  
Ring Anne: 07410 977208

## Great Wyrley

Wyrley Juniors Football Club,  
Long Lane, Newtown  
9.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Ring Kierston: 07824665600

## Cannock

Littleton Green Community  
School, Stafford Road, Cannock  
7pm  
Ring Rose: 07837 088159

## Brereton

Cedar Tree Hotel,  
110 Main Road,  
Brereton, Rugeley  
3.30pm & 5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Ring Emma: 07969 865624

## Heath Hayes

Heath Hayes Primary School  
Wimblebury Road,  
Heath Hayes  
7.00 pm  
Ring Lisa: 07723 606393

## Hednesford

\*NEW VENUE\*  
St Josephs Primary School  
Hilltop, Hednesford  
5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Ring Lindsey: 07989 962061

## WEDNESDAY

**Bridgtown**  
Bethel Methodist Church  
Union Street, Bridgtown,  
Cannock 5.30pm  
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

## Hednesford

Pye Green Community Centre  
Bradbury Lane, Pye Green  
9.30am \*Morning group\*  
Ring Rose: 07837 088159

## Heath Hayes

Welcome Club, Hednesford  
Road, Heath Hayes  
5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Ring Kerrie: 07708 477557

## Chadsmoor

\*NEW VENUE\*  
Bethany Baptist Church,  
Cannock Road, Chadsmoor  
7.30pm  
Ring Lesley-Anne: 07966  
456412

## THURSDAY

**Cannock**  
Avon Business & Leisure  
Centre The Chase Suite Avon  
Road, Cannock (next to Asda)  
6.30pm  
Ring Jan: 07939 001558

## Chestlyn Hay

Cheslyn Hay Community &  
Sports Club  
26 Station Street, Cheslyn Hay  
9.30am \* Morning Group \*  
also at 5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Ring Julie: 07792 762144

## Hednesford

Aquarius Ballroom  
Victoria Street, Hednesford  
9.00am \*Morning Group\*  
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

## Rugeley

\*NEW VENUE\*  
Mansfield House (next to Aldi)  
40 Market Street, Rugeley  
7.00pm  
Ring Liz: 07721 697140

## Burntwood

\*NEW GROUP\*  
1st Chase Scout Group  
Ironstone Road, Burntwood  
9.30am \*Morning Group\*  
Ring Liz: 07721 697140

## Hednesford

\*NEW DAY GROUP\*  
Aquarius Ballroom  
Victoria Street, Hednesford  
9.00am \*Morning Group\*  
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

## SATURDAY

**Burntwood**  
1st Chase Terrace  
Scout Group,  
Ironstone Road, Burntwood  
8.00am & 10.00am  
\*Morning Groups\*  
Ring Liz: 07721 697140

## Pye Green

\*NEW VENUE\*  
Pye Green Community Centre  
Bradbury Lane, Pye Green  
11.30am \*Morning Group\*  
Ring Fina: 07530 165049

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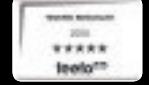
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THE National Memorial Arboretum is again appealing for used Christmas trees. Last year the national centre for remembrance recycled nearly 200 trees, with the chippings used on its 150-acre site. Assistant curator James Shallcross said: "Chippings are incredibly useful and are used throughout the year across our grounds. We are therefore encouraging people to bring their real Christmas trees to our designated drop-off point at the Arboretum for recycling between January 1 and 15." Call 01283 245100, visit [www.thenma.org.uk](http://www.thenma.org.uk) or email [info@thenma.org.uk](mailto:info@thenma.org.uk)

# Exhibitions to spell out HS2 impact on residents

A SERIES of public exhibitions outlining plans for the northern link of HS2 have been scheduled for this month.

There will be seven consultation events on Phase 2 in January, starting in Crewe on Thursday, January 14, before representatives from HS2 Ltd come to Staffordshire the following day.

Engineers will be on hand to answer questions about how the project will affect each area including swathes of land east of Rugeley and Stafford.

Exhibition boards will display where construction sites will be located and what they will look like.

The plans will also show how the high-speed rail line will be shielded from view.

Stop HS2 campaigner Penny Gaines said: "The consultation events are important for people to go to because it gives them a chance to find out what the plans are like from HS2."

## Encourage

"It is also a chance for them to raise their concerns. But the problem we have found is that people have gone to the consultation events in good faith and asked their questions, and they have said all the right things but they have not replied with the information which people are asking for."

But HS2 Ltd rebuffed the claim people's concerns were not being addressed.

Its spokesman Alastair Cowan said: "The whole point of these exhibitions is that we are coming to you and bringing engineers to you to ask them in person."

"I would really encourage people living near the line to come along so they will understand more about what the operation will look like."

# Campaign bid to ban fracking on Cannock Chase

A PETITION calling for fracking to be banned on Cannock Chase drummed up more than 1,900 signatures in a matter of days.

Cannock Chase Green Party fear the Government has paved the way for the controversial form of gas extraction at the beauty spot by giving the green light for fracking under national parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Local party co-ordinator Paul Woodhead said he launched the petition to generate interest in the issue at an early stage so if a decision to drill on the Chase was made in the future, council bosses in



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# Kicking on to nurture female football talent

## COMMERCIAL FEATURE

AN exciting female addition to the Football Development Centre is in the pipeline at Brownhills School.

The post-16 programme, which runs in-conjunction with West Bromwich Albion FC's charity, the Albion Foundation, is currently in its third year now.

From September 2016 the programme will expand to take on its first cohort of female students.

Female students will choose their academic qualifications and alongside their studies for these, they will receive high quality football coaching from Albion Foundation staff in training sessions and for their fixtures.

### Facilities

Other benefits for the students aside from the academic qualifications and high quality football coaching are the access to match-day tickets, player visits and training sessions at West Bromwich Albion FC facilities.

The programme endeavours to give students the chance to experience life in the sports industry with insights into coaching, performance, nutrition and recovery among other areas.

All students will leave after two years with sufficient UCAS points to attend university, qualifications to access jobs



Brownhills pupils – proud to be involved with the Albion Foundation for the past three years



Hoping to encourage more female footballers to step up to the mark at Brownhills School

or apprenticeships and the life skills to succeed in whichever path they choose to follow.

Opportunities will also be made available for students to explore the possibility of a sports scholarship at an American university should they so desire.

Ian Mitchell is responsible for the Football Development Centre at Brownhills and is very proud of the programme to date.

"This represents a fantastic oppor-

tunity for the school to develop its post-16 provision alongside the work of a superb organisation in the Albion Foundation.

### Volunteering

"We truly believe that the programme on offer lives up to its promise of using football to raise achievement and aspirations.

"The benefits have been seen across the programme in the three years since its inception, with more boys staying

on to study at sixth form as direct result of the work with the Albion Foundation.

"A number of current and past students are now involved in working or volunteering with the Albion Foundation in some capacity.

"Prior to their course and the involvement with the Albion Foundation they never dreamed that the possibility of working in or around football was an achievable goal.

Anyone (male or female) interested in joining the Football Development

Centre should contact Mr Mitchell at Brownhills School in one of the following ways:

Phone: 01543 452886  
Email: st-mitchell@brownhills.walsall.sch.uk

Twitter: @BrownhillsPE

Dates to look out for:

Wednesday January 13 – 5.30pm-6.30pm – Post-16 Open Evening. Meet the staff (school and Albion Foundation), find out more about the course,

and talk to current members.

Monday February 15 – 11.30am-

3pm. Football Development Centre

Open Day. Short presentation from

school staff before a coaching session with Albion Foundation coaches as a taste of what you can expect from the football side of the course.

July 2016 Post-16 Open Day-for successful candidates to experience a taste of the courses you have chosen to study alongside the football element of the course.

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# Pan's 'Lost Boys' need sensible girls

## REVIEW

by Leon Burakowski

Wendy & Peter Pan,  
Royal Shakespeare Theatre,  
Stratford-upon-Avon

GIRL power comes to Neverland in the Royal Shakespeare Company's gently feminist revamp of JM Barrie's magical story about the boy who never grows up.

But don't let the F word put you off — this production is very funny, full of magic, music and dance, it just makes it clear 'lost boys' need sensible girls.

As the title suggests, in playwright Ella Hickson's reboot it is Wendy Darling who is the main character, trying to cope with an impetuous, childish Pan who literally flies away from serious issues, like commitment.

In the end she saves the day in alliance with Neverland's other girls, Tinkerbell and Tiger Lily.

### Challenge

First staged by the RSC two years ago, this spectacular production has been enhanced and returns sharper than before.

But a running time of just under three hours, including interval, may challenge younger children.

It is very cleverly written with jokes pitched at both adult and younger audiences, including Shakespearean references along with various recent catchphrases and a couple of Barrie's most memorable lines.

This production benefits from the involvement of RSC associate actors such as the expressive Mariah Gale as a feisty Wendy and Darrel O'Silva as a melancholy, cynical and eloquent Captain Hook.

Comic support comes from the Lost Boys, including Lawrence Walker playing Tootles with a Black Country accent. Paul Kemp as Smee, Hook's devoted and clearly head-over-heels-in-love first mate, dreams of sharing a cosy cottage with his cap'n. But the biggest guffaws are prompted by Adam Gillen's shrieking cabin boy, a Never-



Rhys Rusbatch as Peter Pan with Mariah Gale as Wendy Photo by Manuel Harlan

land reworking of his awkward young hairdresser character in hit TV show Benidorm.

Welsh actor Rhys Rusbatch seems relegated to a supporting role as Peter, but whether lofted about by his pack of shadows or leading the characters on wires through the air — the set does resemble a human mobile — he has charisma as a punky-looking Pan.

Meanwhile, Charlotte Mills as Tinkerbell almost steals the show as a hefty Cockney fairy with a sharp tongue.

Don't underestimate this play's emotional impact. It also has interesting things to say about bereavement. Keep a hanky handy for the scene

when Wendy and her brothers are finally reunited with their own lost boy, a sibling who died.

The only caution I would offer parents of younger children is that Hook's murder of an insolent pirate and Arthur Kyeyune's creepy contorted human crocodile may be a little too scary for some under-10s.

This production is much more substantial than the usual well-meaning but instantly forgettable festive fare in theatreland at this time of year — it makes you think as well as laugh. Wendy & Peter Pan continues in repertory at Stratford until the end of January.

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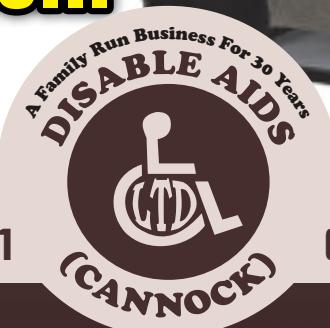
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## FOCUS ON RUGELEY

# Butchery seeks apprentice to help meet growing demand

CANALSIDE Farm Shop at Great Haywood has seen such an increase in sales at their butchery counter that they are now seeking an apprentice to join their team.

Since opening four years ago with one member of staff, the turnover of the butchery has doubled and its workforce has increased to three full-time butchers.

The new apprentice, who will be the fourth member of the team, will have the benefit of learning from the farm shop's head butcher, Ashley Moore, who has more than 30 years' experience and who has seen the butchery go from strength to strength.

Owners Chris and Wendy Barton said: "We are obviously delighted that our butchery department is so busy and as a result has created another new job. We have seen a significant growth in sales this year and, in par-

ticular, in our 'ready to cook' range. We realised from talking to our customers that people are very busy and often like to buy something with a short cooking time, so our butchers developed a range of freshly prepared 'meats in sauces' such as pork stroganoff; chicken in piri piri sauce and Caribbean pork steak, which have been hugely popular with our customers."

Ashley said: "We have a great relationship with our customers and are always eager to listen to what they want."

"I think it's that customer care and product knowledge that really appeals to our customers and keeps them coming back time and time again."

"We even have local farmers coming in to buy our meat from us, which must be a good sign."

For further information on the job vacancy call 01889 881747.



Ashley Moore - 'eager to listen'

# Cats group joy as Wish is granted



From left, Natalie Burkitt, James Cadwallader, both of Number 1 Vets, Turbo the cat, which was rescued by Rugeley Cats Society, Emily Brindle, Laura Hicks, both of Number 1 Vets, Anna Whitehouse and Sallie Young, both of Rugeley Cats Society

WALTON Homes has donated £500 to Rugeley Cat Society to help meet veterinary fees as part of its ongoing 30 Wishes support initiative.

The family-owned business announced its intention last year to mark its 30th anniversary by granting the wishes of 30 Midlands organisations, charities or individuals.

The donation to Rugeley Cats Society was organised in conjunction with Number 1 Vets in the town, a practice which works closely with the society to care for neglected and abandoned cats taken in by the charity.

Founded in 2013 by Sallie Young, after her own cat went missing, the charity has to date rehomed 341 cats, reunited 217 lost and missing cats with their owners, and provided veter-

inary treatment to countless cats and kittens in its care.

Sallie said: "2015 has been, without a doubt, the worst yet for abandoned kittens and cats. The amount of messages received via our Facebook page have been astonishing, and even though there are four core people involved in the charity now, it has sometimes been a struggle to meet the demand for our services."

"We are totally committed to providing the best possible care for our cats, and James Cadwallader of Number 1 Vets and his team of veterinary nurses are amazing," Sallie added.

"All the cats are taken there, nothing is too much trouble for them, and the cats get the best care there is."

"The £500 donation from Walton Homes will be used to pay for the vital care he and his team provide to ensure

the cats in our charge are healthy. Nobody who works at Rugeley Cats Society gets paid. Nobody claims expenses."

"Every penny raised goes to the cats we have in care, and donations such as this go a very long way to helping us keep these cats healthy and safe."

Amy Summerton, director of Walton Homes, said: "Veterinary care is a very expensive necessity, and we were impressed to hear how much support Number 1 Vets has given to this organisation. We wanted to do our bit to ensure that the kittens and cats Sallie and her team at Rugeley Cats Society take in continue to get the love and care they need. The charity does a very worthwhile job, and we're proud to be supporting them. We wish Sallie and her team the very best in continuing to help neglected cats and reunite those that are lost with their owners."

For information on Walton's 30 Wishes campaign and how to register a wish, visit [www.waltonhomes.co.uk](http://www.waltonhomes.co.uk)

## Firms advised to draw up emergency plan

WEST Midlands-based members of the UK200Group of independent chartered accountants and lawyers are advising businesses to have an emergency plan in place just in case the worst should happen.

The UK200Group says that recent flooding in parts of the UK has highlighted the devastating effect that an unexpected disaster can have on a business. A number of companies in these areas have been forced to tem-

porarily close their business, cancel orders and in some cases contemplate their ability to trade in future.

Other common unexpected risks include fires, power outages, gas leaks, road closures and adverse weather, all of which can have a significant effect on a business's ability to trade.

Small businesses are also being encouraged to be aware of the growing risk of cyber-attacks, which are thought to have affected around 33

per cent of the UK's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), according to the Government's latest figures.

The UK200Group has members across the West Midlands, including accountants Dains, which has branches in Rugeley and Lichfield, CB Chartered Accountants, Deans, JW Hinks, Whittingham Riddell and Randal and Payne.

Visit [www.uk200group.co.uk](http://www.uk200group.co.uk) for further details.

# Heartbreak and nostalgic themes

## ALBUMS

by Leon Burakowski

**NOSTALGIA** runs through CeeLo Green's *Heart Blanche*, a slick set of songs from the Atlanta soul singer looking back to the 60s, 70s and 80s.

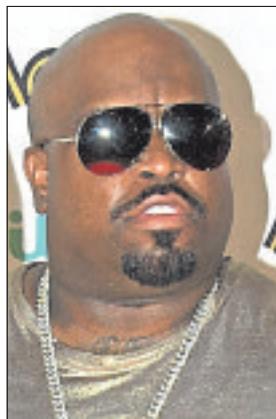
Est 1980s pays tribute to the likes of Duran Duran and Billy Idol, and sounds like them too, whilst the sultry southern soul vibe of *Mother May I* has the benefit of Mark Ronson's retro styled magic.

Work, a probable hit, has more than a hint of Cameo and Prince, and Tonight samples *Music* by John Miles, then throws the Theme to *Taxi* for *Sign Of The Times*.

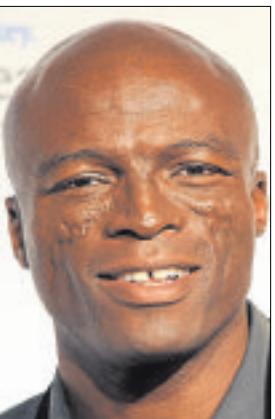
The gospel flavoured CeeLo Green Sings *The Blues* is a highlight, *Music To My Soul* and *Race Against Time* are both prime examples of the CeeLo brand of pop/R&B. However, the album hits a maudlin low with the track *Robin Williams* and peters out with forgettable songs, leaving a half-decent album.

The seventh album from **Seal**, entitled rather obviously 7, is a break-up album with songs that reflect the pain of a broken relationship, following the end of his marriage to supermodel Heidi Klum. That's pretty obvious with songs such as *The Big Love Has Died* and *Half A Heart*. But for all the rich, ragged-edged soulfulness of his vocals, the emotional level never reaches passionate. Immaculately produced by Trevor Horn, 7 nevertheless sounds stuck in the 1990s. Best of the bunch is the gently funky *Monascow*.

Stourport-born singer-songwriter Clifford T Ward, best known for his songs *Gaye and Home Thoughts From Abroad*, was plain Cliff Ward when he fronted swinging '60s out-



CeeLo Green draws on influences from the 1960s, '70s and '80s



The break-up of his marriage has influenced Seal's seventh album

fit *The Secrets* before finding fame in the '70s. *Infatuation: Singles and Demos 1966-68* rescues the band's mid-60s output for CBS from obscurity. Whilst hardly in the category of lost classics, songs like *She's Dangerous*, *I Know What Her Name Is* and *Keeping My Head Above Water* are groovy in a Kinks/Hollies way. *Path Through The Forest* was in tune with the coming tide of psychedelia weirdness. The sleeve notes delve back into the Black Country, Brum and Kidderminster music scene of a half century ago.

There will be lots of musical nostalgia for those who watched TV in the '60s on the various artists album *Escape In Time: Popular British Television Themes of the 1960s*. These were the days when theme tunes were

bold and brassy, jazzy and dynamic, yet still somehow as thoroughly British as a brolly and a bowler hat.

The music was delivered by Johnny Dankworth, the John Barry Seven, Geoff Love & His Orchestra, guitar twanger Bert Weedon and King of the '60s TV theme Ron Grainger. The latter contributes the Steptoe & Son theme (called Old Ned), *Comedy Playhouse* (*Happy Joe*) and wonderfully stereotypically French style Maigret Theme.

Other favourites include Coronation Street (the theme was called Lancashire Blues), The Saint, Animal Magic, Juke Box Jury, the original The Avengers, What The Papers Say (still to be heard on BBC radio) and the tick tocking opening to Anthony Newley's surreal *The Strange World of Gurney Slade*.

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# Keep looking for signs of obesity

## COMMERCIAL FEATURE

PET obesity is on the rise, with most owners unaware of its severity. In the UK, approximately 45 per cent of dogs, 40 per cent of cats and 28 per cent of rabbits are overweight.

There are several factors making obesity more likely in pets, including breed, age, gender, if neutered and exercise level, meaning that owners should ensure that they monitor their pet's diet and follow the advice of their vets.

### Claims

Obesity is a welfare issue and can cause serious health problems such as diabetes, heart disease, respiratory disease, high blood pressure, cancer, skin/coat problems, and arthritis, along with behavioural changes.

It can also make existing health issues worse. In addition, your pet's insurance company may not provide cover for obesity-related claims.

You should be able to see and feel the outline of your pet's ribs, to see their waist from above, and their tummy should be tucked up when you look at them from their side.

Our top tips for managing your pet's weight are:

1 Remember, feeding guides are just a guide and need to be tailored to the individual pet, taking into account exercise, neuter status and any treats fed.

2 Weigh their meals. Measuring in a cup is not accurate and the amount



Melbourne Veterinary Centre receptionist Karen Mueller has advice for pet owners

varies each time, potentially up to an extra meal. For ease, bag meals in advance.

3 Avoid human foods – they are extremely calorific for pets and may cause health problems.

4 Beware: treats are high in calories and can equate to a large amount of your pet's daily calorie requirement.

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## Wayne a worthy winner

CANNOCK Shopping Centre presented £100 worth of shopping vouchers to the winner of its online competition. Wayne Bullock from Cannock was chosen at random as the winner and received his prize of Argos vouchers. More than 170 people entered the competition via the centre's Facebook page. Wayne, aged 43, said: "I would like to say a huge thank you to the team at Cannock. It was a wonderful surprise, and I am thrilled to have won." Centre manager Natal Chapman said: "We were delighted to award Wayne with his prize and hope he enjoys spending it."

# Thousands of firms fit the zombie description

MORE than 5,000 companies in Staffordshire and the Black Country are classed as zombie firms, meaning they barely break even and avoid insolvency through low interest rates.

In Staffordshire one in 11 firms are zombie companies, accounting for 3,018 of the 34,703 firms in the county. Now, with interest rates expected to rise in 2016, it is feared it could kill off many zombie firms.

Out of 8,966 companies registered in Wolverhampton, a total of 1,330 have been classified in the state by business rescue and recovery specialist Begbies Traynor. One in seven Dudley firms is classed as a zombie – 436 of the 3,349 companies in the town.

In Walsall, the count is one in 11 – 583 out of the 6,264 registered businesses – while in West Bromwich it is one in 10, or 131 of the town's 1,281 companies.

### Problems

John Kelly, regional managing partner for Begbies Traynor in the Midlands, said: "The historic low interest rates that UK consumers have enjoyed over the past few years are also providing a lifeline to tens of thousands of businesses in the Midlands.

"However, some economists have commented that there is a danger that maintaining this situation is merely storing up problems for the future, particularly as the negative equity of zombie firms nationally is estimated to be in the region of £70 billion.

"The problem is that if rates do not increase soon, the number of zombie companies will. That means when rates do rise, the number of failings is likely to be higher and if not carefully

# Companies to be put on the best exporting route

A FREE event is to be held in Cannock to advise firms on how they can reach new overseas customers.

Bosses will be able to put questions to international trade specialists and network with like-minded businesses. The event is on January 22 between 8.30am and 1pm at the Premier Suite, in Danilo Road.

Hosted by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, it will help firms to find out what practical help is available to pinpoint global opportunities. Representatives from UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) and the Chase Chamber of Commerce will be attending. From April



John Kelly – 'lifeline'

managed could threaten what is still a delicate recovery." In Wolverhampton the zombie ratio has altered little since 2010, when around 13 per cent of firms were classified as zombies.

During that year, there were 7,856 businesses operating in the city, with 1,097 reliant on credit. A zombie business is a zero growth business that is surviving, primarily due to low interest rates with some benefitting from HMRC's 'time to pay' arrangements for outstanding tax payments.

Several high-profile economists have raised concerns regarding the impact these zombie businesses are having on UK productivity, and the diversion of funding away from growth businesses. Nationally, it is estimated there are in excess of 400,000 zombie firms.

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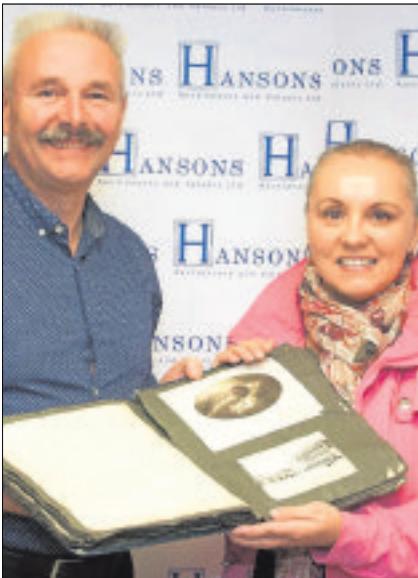
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## Nurse's scrapbook is sold for £2,600



Adrian Stevenson with Yvonne Clay, who bought the First World War scrapbook at auction for £2,600

A UNIQUE First World War scrapbook which contains extracts of the day-to-day life of a young nurse named Violet Gossett has sold at auction for £2,600.

The personal and poignant account of nurse Gossett's experience of serving as a nurse in France during the Great War was bought by Staffordshire genealogist Yvonne Clay, who fought off strong competition from buyers worldwide.

International clients as far as Asia left generous commission bids, as well as a number of national institutions who all expressed interest.

The atmosphere was tense after the price soared past £2,000 and it was a room bidder's offer of £2,600 that secured the item. Yvonne said she was thrilled to be taking home the first-hand account of the atrocities of the conflict, in the hope to delve deeper into the life and family history of Miss Gossett.

Militaria consultant Adrian Stevenson of Hansons Auctioneers & Valuers Ltd said: "I thought it may just break the £2,000 barrier, but never did I imagine it would sell for £2,600. I'm really pleased it went to a local lady who is passionate and interested in finding out more about Miss Gossett and her life family tree."

## 1,000-plus potholes repaired in a year

MORE than 1,000 potholes have been repaired on motorways in the Midlands – forcing highways bosses to pay out thousands of pounds in compensation to motorists.

In total, 106 compensation claims were made to Highways England over the past 12 months.

Eleven payouts were made totalling £3,428 after the claims were investigated. Officials said the 'sheer volume' of traffic causes potholes leading to emergency roadworks.

They estimate 160,000 vehicles a day are using the M6 in the Black Country and Staffordshire alone.

In total, 1,085 potholes were repaired on the M6 between junctions 6 and 15, M5 from one to four, and M54 from the M6 to junction seven, in 2014-15.

Potholes wider than 6in and deeper than 1.5in must be repaired within 24 hours once they are discovered.

Highways England spokesman Alistair Harris said: "The surfacing we use is the best available material for the job – however, very few materials could withstand that."

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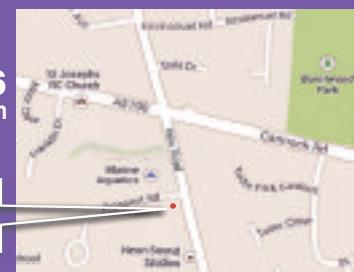
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# 15pc rise in call-outs to help revellers

BOOZE-FUELLED assaults, falls and people taken ill led to a surge in call-outs for paramedics treating New Year revellers.

West Midlands Ambulance Service answered almost 1,000 in the first four hours of 2016 – an increase of 15 per cent on the same time last year.

Nearly half of those call-outs were to incidents across Staffordshire, the

Black Country, and Worcestershire, according to officials.

The service said that it had more staff on than ever before to cope with calls during the busy night.

Between 8pm and midnight, there were 634 '999' calls – an increase of nearly seven per cent on the same period a year earlier.

Officials said there were 123 calls to

incidents in Staffordshire, 142 in the Black Country, 68 in Worcestershire, and 145 in Birmingham during the four hours leading to midnight.

Calls spiked between 1 and 2am as paramedics worked to treat revellers. From midnight to 4am, there were 212 call-outs to incidents in Staffordshire, 243 in Birmingham, 215 in the Black Country, and 68 in Worcestershire.

# Bad weather blamed as Chase tree sales chopped by 10pc

## APC turnover up £10m



Enhancements – the sorting hall at APC Overnight in Cannock

DELIVERY company APC Overnight has added £10 million to its turnover figure, despite a drop in profit, as it invested heavily in new equipment for its hub site in Cannock. Turnover was up 11.5 per cent to £98.8m, but pre-tax profit fell by more than £1m, down to £2.4m from £3.5m the year before.

The latest accounts filed at Companies House, for the 12 months to the end of March 2015, say profit fell 'mainly due to changes in the market and traffic profile coupled with the additional costs associated with operating across multi sites whilst establishing the facility en-

hancements at Cannock'. Despite the drop, the accounts record: 'The directors are satisfied with the profit for the year.' APC delivers through a network of 115 local depots tied to its major hub on the Kingswood Lakeside site where it employs around 500 people, following heavy recruitment in advance of the Christmas period, and handles around 30 million parcels a year.

The company said network trading had performed well during the year under review, as it also completed work installing two 'sky sorters' to increase the amount of parcels it could handle.

SALES of Christmas trees at Cannock Chase fell by 10 per cent – with the drop blamed on the stormy weather.

Around 800 fewer trees were sold at Birches Valley Visitor Centre, near Rugeley – one of the biggest outlets in the country for Christmas tree sales.

But bosses say the drop was expected after they were forced to close twice due to high winds and rain on what would have been their biggest selling days.

The centre shut up shop for one day on its opening weekend of sales at the end of November. It was also forced to close for a day on a weekend in mid-December.

Around 7,200 trees were sold in total. Andy Coggins, Forestry Commission recreation manager at Cannock Chase, said staff were left with little choice, adding: 'The safety of our staff and customers has to come first.'

'It wasn't ideal, as these would have been two of our best days, but it would have been dangerous to remain open, given the weather conditions.'

### Prices

'Sales recovered to a degree, with some of our customers remaining loyal and coming back another day to buy their tree, but understandably others couldn't and sales never really caught up.'

Two years ago, Christmas tree sales fell by five per cent, a drop that was partly blamed on a price increase combined with a trend in fake trees in response to the prolonged economic downturn.

Last year, prices were pegged and sales remained steady.

The Chase grows its own Lodgepole Pine and Nordmann Fir trees. The supply is supplemented by forests in Scotland.

Mr Coggins said the centre was not beaten by bigger shops, including supermarkets, selling Christmas trees at discount prices.

He said: 'We cannot hope to compete with those prices. These companies can afford to buy them in and sell them as loss leaders to entice customers in.'

People might go there to buy a tree and come out having bought several other things as well, so it works well for them.'

'For us, the trees are our main product, and the money we make goes back into maintaining the forest.'

In 2013, some 8,500 trees were sold, compared to 9,000 in 2012.

# Fears on care for elderly as rise in deaths doubles

AN extra 4,400 people died in Staffordshire and the West Midlands during last winter compared with the preceding autumn – double the previous year's figure.

The Office for National Statistics, which published the figures, has attributed the spike partly to problems with last year's flu vaccine. Poorly insulated homes are also believed to be a factor.

The figure represented a 15-year high and the biggest yearly increase on record. In November 2015, the West Midlands Pensioners Convention held a vigil in Birmingham to highlight the choice they say many elderly

# Youngsters to use their skills in competition

PUPILS in Cannock can showcase their skills in a number of disciplines, with trophies up for grabs.

The Rotary Club of Cannock Youth Competition heats get under way next week.

Schools have been invited to take part in competitions for music, cooking and presentation skills.

Students from Chase High and Cardinal Griffin will vie for the young musician competition at Cannock Chase High School on Monday, January 11, from 6pm.

The Youth Speaks competition follows a week later at Kingsmead School, Hedges-

ford, from 5pm. Eight teams of 11 to 13-year-olds from Kingsmead and Chase High will test their debating skills in front of an audience.

The Young Chef competition follows on February 12 at Kingsmead.

The winners of each contest will receive their awards from the president of The Rotary Club of Cannock and will be invited to take part in district competitions against other schools in the area.

Any schools wishing to take part in 2016-17 should send an email to secretary@canckrotary.co.uk for more information.

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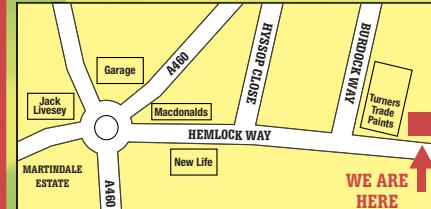
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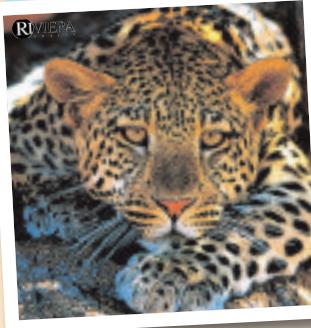
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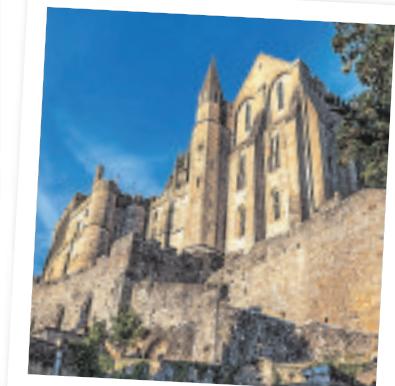
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# Strictly not to be missed!

IT'S the tour thousands of dance fans have been waiting for. The Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour returns to Birmingham for a fab-ulous ninth year.

And leading the pack will be this year's Glitter Ball winner Jay McGuiness – one fifth of the globally successful band, The Wanted.

He will be partnered again by professional Aliona Vilani who recently announced that she is quitting the BBC TV show.

The modest Jay, who wowed from week one of the series, said: "I'm used to performing in front of massive crowds when touring with The Wanted, but performing with Aliona on the Strictly Live Tour will be a totally different experience."

"I loved my time on the TV series, but the idea of being back out in front of live arena audiences is something I'm very much looking forward to."

## Favourite

Other celebrities booked in for the three-day Birmingham run from January 22-24 are Helen George, best known for her role of nurse Trixie Franklin in the multi-award winning BBC series Call the Midwife. She will be partnered by Aljaz Skorjanec.

Helen says: "I had a brilliant time on Strictly, so I'm very excited to continue my journey and have the chance to show off some of my favourite dances to audiences on the UK Tour."

"I'm sure that it'll be amazing to dance in front of huge arena audiences with Aljaz."

"I'm very much looking forward to the audience helping me feel at home on the dance floor each night."

Jay and Helen join Frankie Bridge from The Saturdays, actress Georgia May Foote from Coronation Street, who reached this year's final, partnered by new boy Giovanni Pernice, celebrity chef Ainsley Harriott and TV presenter Anita Rani, again teamed with the other new dancer Gleb Savchenko.



Jay McGuiness is lifted in the air by fellow celebrities and dancers after winning the Strictly final



Dainty Georgia May Foote, reached this year's final

Frankie will be dancing with favourite Kevin Clifton, whose sister Karen will join the tour for the professional dances and group numbers, and Ainsley will be teamed with Natalie Lowe.

They will be joining the 2016 tour host Mel Giedroyc, together with judges Len Goodman, Craig Revel Horwood, who also directs the tour, and Bruno Tonioli.

Also appearing in this year's tour is previous contestant EastEnders star Jake Wood

who will be partnering Janette Manrara. Jake has been a part of some of the most memorable storylines on the soap for the past decade, performing the role of Max Branning.

He impressed the judges and TV audiences alike with his slick dance moves on last year's BBC One series of Strictly Come Dancing, and now he has the chance to show off his skills to arena audiences on the tour.

Jake says: "I really enjoyed my time on Strictly last year but couldn't do the tour due

to EastEnders' filming commitments, so it's great to get the chance to throw myself into the whole experience again as part of the 2016 Strictly tour.

"I'm so pleased that Frankie is doing the tour as well so we can enjoy reliving it all again together and I'm very happy that I'm being reunited with Janette."

"I can't wait to relive some of my favourite dances in arenas across the country!"

The tour starts in Birmingham on Friday,

January 22 with an evening performance at 7.30pm, Saturday at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, and Sunday at 1.30pm and 6.30pm.

Tickets are on sale from [www.thefastticketfactory.com](http://www.thefastticketfactory.com) or by calling 0844 33 88 222.

The tickets are priced at £73.83, £51.33, £40.08 (includes admin fees + 70p facility fee) + £2.55 fulfilment fee.

For more information and dates of the other tour venues visit [www.strictlycomedancelive.com](http://www.strictlycomedancelive.com)

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### FORTHCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday 9th January

JERRY AND THE ATRICKS - COVERS BAND

Saturday 16th January  
3/6d - 60'S BAND

Saturday 23rd January

LYNDSEY - FEMALE VOCALIST

Saturday 30th January

FLYING COLOURS BAND  
- 60'S TO PRESENT DAY MUSIC

Friday 5th February  
KRY-S - 60'S BAND

Saturday 6th February

WAYNE POWERS - MALE VOCALIST

Saturday 13th February

MR B - MALE VOCALIST  
Saturday 20th February

NICOLE -  
FEMALE VOCALIST

Saturday 27th February

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## CHOICE



## Boy George

**The Voice UK**  
**(BBC1, 7.30pm)**

New series. The BBC's singing contest returns, with Paloma Faith and Boy George taking the two chairs left vacant following Tom Jones' departure, and Rita Ora's defection to The X Factor last year. Veteran coaches Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson return to take their place on the panel, along with presenters Emma Willis and Marvin Humes. The contest gets under way with the first of seven traditional 'blind' auditions' stages, in which the four coaches must select their teams by assessing their vocal ability alone. Among the auditionees are a punk fan whose twist on a pop classic melts hearts on the panel, and a self-aware fishmonger whose performance includes plenty of piscine-themed puns to lighten the mood.

**6.00 Breakfast** **10.00 Saturday Kitchen**  
Live. **11.30 James Martin Home Comforts**. **12.00 BBC News; Weather**. **12.10 Football Saturday**. **1.00 Live Athletics**. Coverage of the Great Edinburgh Cross-Country from Holyrood Park. **2.30 Live Darts**: BDO World Championships. Coverage of the opening men's semi-final. **4.30 Final Score**. **5.20 Now You See It**. **5.50 BBC News**.

**6.00 Regional Programme**.

**6.10 Celebrity Mastermind**. CBeebies presenter Katy Ashworth, actor Thomas Lurgiose, former jockey Mick Fitzgerald, and radio presenter Shelagh Fogarty take to the black chair. Last in the series.

**6.40 Pointless Celebrities**. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present an FA Cup version of the unorthodox general knowledge quiz.

**7.30 The Voice UK**. New series. The BBC's flagship singing contest returns, with Paloma Faith and Boy George fill the two spinning chairs left vacant following Tom Jones' departure, and Rita Ora's defection to The X Factor last year. Veteran coaches Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson return to take their place on the panel, along with presenters Emma Willis and Marvin Humes. The contest gets underway with the first of seven traditional "blind auditions" stages, in which the four coaches must select their teams by assessing their vocal ability alone. Among the auditionees are a punk fan who belts out on a piano, a melt hearts on the panel, and a self-aware fishmonger whose performance includes plenty of piscine-themed puns to lighten the mood.

**9.05 Casualty**. Dixie steps in to save Nikki's family from feeling the full force of her wrath, and Cal decides not to tell a troubled Ethan what he has learned about his origins.

**9.55 The National Lottery Live**.

**10.05 BBC News; Weather**.

**10.25 Match of the Day**: **FA Cup Highlights**. Gary Lineker presents action from the third-round fixtures, including Eastleigh v Bolton Wanderers; National Lottery Update.

**12.00 Film**: *The Peacemaker*. (1997) **1.55 Film**: *Halloween: Resurrection*. (2002) **3.20 Weather for the Week Ahead**. **3.25 BBC News**.

**BBC2**

**6.10** Race to Super Bowl 50. (R) **7.00**  
Film: *Jubal*. (1956) **8.40** Film: *The Importance of Being Earnest*. (1952)  
**10.10** Animal Park. (R) **11.10** Natural World. (R) **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.45** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **13.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** For What It's Worth. (R) **4.30** Live Darts: BDO World Championships.

**6.00** *Flog It!* Paul Martin visits Loughborough's Town Hall and discovers the area's link with the popular Ladybird books. Valuable items up for auction include a concertina and a chocolate cup. (R)

**6.30** *World's Sneakiest Animals*. Animals that use deceptive tactics to find food - from the manipulative mantis that looks like a flower to sea otters which demand ransom after kidnapping each other's pups. (R)

**7.30** *Victorian Bakers*. Four bakers experience what their profession was like during the Victorian era, working from a rural bake house kitted out exactly as it would have been in the 1830s. (R)

**8.30** *Dad's Army*. Mainwaring and Wilson decide to recruit women into the platoon to take care of the less demanding tasks, but the captain loses his heart to an attractive widow. (R)

**9.00** *Live at the Apollo*. The stand-up show returns with Alan Carr hosting from London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing and introducing guests Francesca Martinez and Nish Kumar. (R)

**9.45** *Insert Name Here*. Comedy panel game in which Sue Perkins asks teams to decide who is the best of the many people who share a particular name. With Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe. (R)

**10.15** *QI XL*. Cariad Lloyd, Dermot O'Leary and Phil Jupitus compete alongside resident panelist Alan Davies.

**11.00** *Dragons' Den*. A former contestant makes a second attempt to impress the panel, and a former figure skater fails to inspire much confidence in Peter Jones. (R)

**12.00** Darts: BDO World Championships

**12.50** Film: *Genghis Khan*. (1965) **2.55**  
Film: *Captain Apache*. (1971) **4.25** This is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** **CTV:** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge, **6.25** Pat & Stan, **(R) 6.35** Dino Dan, **(R) 6.45** Dino Dan, **(R) 7.00** 700 Stories: Share a Story, **7.05** Sooth, **(R) 7.15** Super 4, **(R) 7.30** Scrambled; Scrambled!, **7.35** Scrambled; Mr Bean: The Animated Series, **(R) 7.50** Scrambled!; Horrid Henry, **(R) 8.10** Scrambled!; Nerdy Monsters, **8.30** Scrambled!; Thunderbirds Are Go, **9.05** Scrambled!; The Weather, **9.30** Weather, **(R) 9.45** ITV News, **9.55** Murdoch, **(R) 10.00** Stories, **(R) 10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA, **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show, **(R) 12.22** ITV News: Weather, **12.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show, **(R) 1.30** Judge Binder, **(R) 2.30** The Chase, **(R) 3.30** Doc Martin, **(R) 4.30** The Martin Lewis Money Show, **(R) 5.00** Ninja Warrior UK, **(R)**

**6.00** **Regional Programme:** Weather.

**6.15** **ITV News:** Weather.

**6.30** **New You've Been Framed!** Harry narrates more comical home videos, including a cat attacking a drone, and a pensioner who left a trail of destruction through a supermarket.

**7.00** **Ninja Warrior UK:** Ben Shephard, Peter Humes and Chris Kamara host the third heat, as competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge.

**8.00** **Take Me Out:** Paddy McGuinness lines up another selection of potential sweethearts for his 30 single women. This time, singing software engineer Rhys from Merthyr Tydfil, semi-pro footballer Ellis from the Wirral, London-based personal trainer Ola and horse-rider Sam from Chester set out to impress the ladies, hoping they keep their lights on as a sign of approval.

**9.15** **The Jonathan Ross Show:** New series. The host returns with a new series for the new year, and is joined by actor Steve Carell, chef Gordon Ramsay and singer Ellie Goulding.

**10.20** **ITV News:** Weather.

**10.35** **Film: Sex and the City 2**, (2010) Premiere. Fashion-conscious writer Carrie escapes the strain of married life with a disaster-strewed trip to Abu Dhabi. Comedy sequel with Sarah Jessica Parker, Kristin Davis, Cynthia Nixon and Kim Cattrall.

**11.15** **Jackpot247, 3.00** Murder, She Wrote, **(R) 3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.15** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Ironman France. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Film: Von World's Most Famous Train. (R) **1.25** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Kempton Park and Wincanton. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.35** Come Dine with Me. (R)

**6.05** Channel 4 News.

**6.35** Location, Location, Location. Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer have two sets of house-hunters looking for their dream home. Katie Derham is international development and has spent years in Africa and elsewhere around the globe. Now she wants to put down roots and has chosen the picturesque Yorkshire Dales. In nearby Leeds, perfectionist couple Charley and Hayley have spent nine months trying to clinch a deal on their first home, terrified of making the wrong decision. Can Kirstie and Phil help them both find what they're looking for? (R)

**7.30** Britain's Wildest Weather (2015). Documentary featuring footage of unusual weather conditions in the past year shot by members of the public, including freak豪storms, 113mph winds, deadly lightning strikes and even a tornado. The programme includes interviews with those involved, including tanker pilots, rescue teams, weather watchers and hikers. (R)

**9.00** Film: The Hunger Games: Catching Fire. (2013) Premiere. Katniss Everdeen returns in the televised death match making her a focus for revolution against the totalitarian nation she lives in. The rulers of the regime plot to crush dissent with a new series of games, in which past champions battle it out. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Jennifer Lawrence, (R)

**11.50** Film: The Day the Earth Stood Still. (2008) An alien is sent to Earth on a mission to decide if the human race should be wiped out or allowed to continue existing. Sci-fi remake, with Keanu Reeves.

**1.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **3.50** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) **4.45** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **5.00** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.50** How I Met Your Mother. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **9.30** Saturday Show. **11.30** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **12.25** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **1.25** Film: Columbus: How to Kill a Murder. (1978) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.00** Film: Columb Make Me a Perfect Murder. (1978) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **5.00** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R)

**6.00 5 News Weekend.**

**6.05 World War II in Colour.** This edition focuses on the effectiveness of the German blitzkrieg – intense military campaigns that aimed to bring about a swift victory using tanks supported by aircraft and infantry. This new type of warfare took the Allies by surprise and gave Hitler the opportunity to seize Poland and France. Actor Robert Powell narrates the story of the global conflict, told using coloured archive footage, state-of-the-art terrain mapping and cutting-edge computer graphics, and based on government papers and previously classified files. (R)

**7.05 World War II: Battlefield Recovery.** New series. Excavation experts retrieve Second World War relics from the war-zones of the Eastern Front, telling the stories fallen soldiers by examining their remains.

**8.00 Chasing Monsters.** New series. Documentary series which seek out colossal underwater creatures in the most remote corners of the planet, beginning with the monster shark.

**9.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** The first eviction from the housemates' point of view, and the rest of the goings-on as the new showbiz programme continue to get along – or not, this may be.

**10.00 Jason Manford Live at the Manchester Apollo.** The comedian performs before his home-town audience during his 2009 tour, offering his thoughts the rules of driving and the proper way to use a urinal. (R)

**11.15 Lip Sync Battle: David Walliams vs Alesha Dixon.** David Walliams and Alesha Dixon go head to head. (I)

**11.45 Tattoo Disasters UK.**

**12.10 Super Casino.** **3.10** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **4.00** Lip Sync Battle: David Walliams vs Alesha Dixon. (I) **4.45** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
 9.05 Don't Tell the Bride **8.00** Top Gear  
 9.05 Film: Shrek the Third (2007) **10.30**  
 Russell Howard's Good News Extra **11.15**  
 Family Guy **1.25** American Dad! **1.45**  
 Russell Howard's Good News Extra **2.30**  
 Impractical Jokers **4.00** Close

**BBC Four**  
 7.00 Stories from the Dark Earth: Meet the Ancestors Revisited **8.00** Castles – Britain's Fortified History **9.00** The Young Montalbano **10.45** Blonde: One Way or Another **11.55** Blonds @ Glastonbury **12.50**  
 Top of the Pops: The Story of 1981 **1.50** Top of the Pops: 1981 Big Hits **2.50**  
 Sy nth Bratann at the BBC **3.50** Close

**ITV2**  
 11.05 Ninja Warrior UK **1.15** You've Been Framed! Gold **1.40** Film: The Lake House (2006) **3.45** Film: Anna McNee (2007) **5.45** Film: Jurassic Park (1993) **8.10**  
 Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands **9.15**  
 Take Me Out – The Gossip **10.20** Film:  
 The Fast and the Furious (2001) **12.25**  
 FHM: The Last of the Lad's Mag **1.25**  
 SafeWord **2.00** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.50** Telelopping **5.50**  
 ITV2 Nightscreen

**ITV3**  
 11.45 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes **2.00** A Touch of Frost **4.00** Film:  
 Rest for the Mrs. Mrs. Columbo (1991) **6.00**  
 The Joy of Foley **7.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.55** Marchionds **1.00**  
 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes **1.55**  
 Man About the House **2.20** ITV3  
 Nightscreen **2.30** Telelopping

**ITV4**  
 11.10 Film: Cheyenne Autumn (1964)  
 12.10 Film: Rio Bravo (1959) **6.00**  
 Star Wars: Episode **8.00** Star Wars **9.00** Film: Pale Rider (1985) **11.25** Film:  
 Heartbreak Ridge (1986) **2.05** Legacy –  
 The 2015 Rugby World Cup **3.00**  
 Telelopping

**E4**  
 11.10 Hollywood Does Come Dine with Me **1.55** Film: Space Chimps (2003)  
 3.30 The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film:  
 Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (2009) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring  
 Shia LaBeouf **11.00** Gogglebox **12.35**  
 The Inbetweeners **4.45** The IT Crowd **2.45** How I Met Your Mother **3.30** Made in Chelsea: End of Season Party **4.20**  
 Revenge

**Film4**  
 11.00 Gideon of Scotland Yard (1958)  
 1.00 The Family Stone (2005) **3.05** Carry On Dick (1974) **4.55** Inherit the (2008)  
 7.00 Terminal Velocity (1994) **9.00** The Grey (2011) **11.15** Dog Soldiers (2002)  
 1.20 Joy Ride (2001) **3.20** Close

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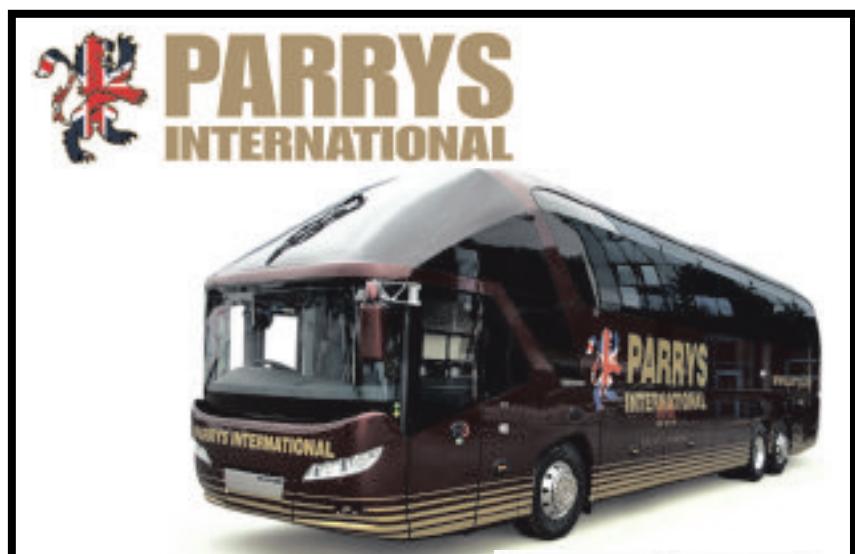
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## CHOICE



Kieran Bew

## Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands (ITV, 7pm)

The thanes of the various tribes come together in the Shieldlands to elect their new leader, but the gathering is disrupted when a mysterious murderer strikes. It falls to Beowulf to identify the culprit before he has a chance to kill again and prevent a threat to Retha's continued rule. Kieran Bew, Joanne Whalley, William Hurt, David Harewood, Gisli Orr Gardarsson, Ed Speleers, David Ajala, Ian Puleston-Davies, Laura Donnelly and Lolita Chakrabarti star.

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 7.25 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Regional Programme. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News. 2.00 1.15 School of Rock. 3.15 For What It's Worth. (R) 2.35 Great Barrier Reef with David Attenborough. (R) 3.35 Match of the Day: The Live. The Cup. Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City (kick-off 4.00pm). 6.05 BBC News. 6.20 Regional Programme. 6.30 **Countryfile.** Matt Baker learns about oilseed rape farming in Herefordshire, and helps chef Jason Atherton to whip up a feast using his healthy product. Ellie Harrison goes in search of wildlife in Harewood Forest, chef Tony Singh visits Loch Awe in the Western Isle of Scotland. Tom Heap reports on cuts to rural public transport, and Adam Henson meets the winner of last year's Countryfile Farming Hero award before announcing this year's nominees. 7.30 **Still Open All Hours.** Granville arranges a double-date with Madge and Mavis for himself and Gastric – but has to smarthen his friend up first. Mrs Featherstone has her eye on a potential new husband. 8.00 **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents the second of two programmes from Bowood House, Wiltshire, where the experts examine a box engraved with a secret code and a Russian cigarette case. 9.00 **War & Peace.** Andrei and Nikolai prepare to go into battle with the French, but may be walking into a trap. Back at home, Pierre is finding married life with Helene harder than expected. 10.00 BBC News. 10.20 Regional Programme. 10.30 **Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the weekend's concluding third-round fixtures, including Oxford United v Swansea City, Carlisle United v Yeovil Town and Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City. 11.25 Film: **Signs.** (2002) M Night Shyamalan's sci-fi thriller, starring Mel Gibson and Joaquin Phoenix. 1.05 Snooker: The Masters – Extra. 3.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. 3.10 BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.30 Film:** City Beneath the Sea. (1970) Sci-fi adventure, starring Stuart Whitman. 8.00 Monty Don's Italian Gardens. (R) 9.00 Countryfile: Compiling a Winter Portfolio. (R) 10.00 Countryfile: Best Bits. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) 1.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. Shaun Murphy v Mark Allen. 5.00 Ski Sunday. 5.45 Live Darts: BDO World Championships. Coverage of the men's final. 8.00 **Dragons' Den.** Entrepreneurs pitch their money-making ideas to a panel of self-made millionaires, who are prepared to invest their company's money in the scheme if they think it could work. 9.00 **My Mediterranean with Adrian Chiles.** Part two of two. Adrian gets in touch with his Catholic roots in Rome, riding a Vespa around the city with a priest and joining a crowd come to see the Pope in St Peter's Square. Adrian also attends his first confession in eight years with an 80-year-old cardinal, learns about converting to Judaism while observing the Sabbath, helps a group of nuns in the kitchen, and visits a Catholic school where most of the pupils are Muslims. 10.00 **Life on Screen – Stephen Fry.** In this documentary, Stephen Fry tells the story behind his success, with contributions from Michael Sheen, Hugh Laurie and Alan Davies. (R) 11.00 **Snooker: The Masters.** Stuart Bingham, Mark Selby, Hazel Clark and presents extended highlights of the first-round match on day one at Alexandra Palace, London, which was played over the best of 11 frames. 11.50 Film: **Disconnect.** (2012) The complex lives of several strangers are made far more problematic by the technology they use to communicate. Ensemble drama, starring Jason Bateman and Hope Davis. 1.40 **Sign Zone: Countryfile Compilation: Winter Wildlife.** Ellie Harrison reports from the Cotswold Water Park, where she helps with maintenance. Plus, a look back at the most memorable moments from the series featuring winter wildlife. (R) 2.35 **Holby City.** While battling for a research grant at an outdoor pursuit centre, Arthur tries to win Morven's affections. (R) 3.35 This Is BBC Two. News.

## ITV

**6.00 CITV:** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story. 7.05 Sooty. (R) 7.15 Super 4. (R) 7.30 Scrambled: Mr Bear. (R) 7.30 Scrambled: Mr Bear. (R) 7.30 Scrambled: Mr Bear. (R) 7.30 Scrambled: Mr Bear: The Animated Series. (R) 8.10 Scrambled: Nerds & Monsters. 8.30 Scrambled: Bear Grylls' Survival School. 9.05 Scrambled: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Murder. Shit Wrote. (R) 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.35 ITV News; Weather. 12.50 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 1.50 **Ninja Warrior UK.** (R) 2.55 Film: **Thunderball.** (1965) James Bond spy adventure, starring Sean Connery. 5.30 Regional Programme; Weather. 5.45 ITV News; Weather. 6.00 **Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera.** Part one of two. Alastair Stewart presents extraordinary eyewitness footage filmed by members of the public. 7.00 **Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands.** A murderer is on the loose as tribal thanes gather to elect their new leader, and it falls to Beowulf to identify the culprit before he has a chance to kill again. 8.00 **Endeavour.** A mysterious fire that killed an artist with connections to political activists leaves the police baffled, while a fight funds himself short-staffed when a smartass bug puts a stop to his vacation sick leave. The situation becomes more serious when a housewife dies of the same condition. Endeavour investigates a family-run supermarket, believing the infection may have stemmed from their stock being deliberately contaminated, and discovers dark secrets that may have a connection to the unexplained blaze. 10.00 **ITV News:** Weather. 10.15 **Joanna Lumley's Trans-Siberian Adventure.** The actress takes in the varied sights of Mongolia during the second leg of her journey, visiting the nation's capital – Ulan Bator – and meeting renowned Mongolian throat-singers. (R) 11.15 **Premiership Rugby Union.** Action from the latest fixtures. 12.15 **Jackpot247.** 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.40 ITV News. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

6.15 **How I Met Your Mother.** (R) 6.40 The King of Queens. (R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 **Frasier.** (R) 9.00 **Fraiser.** (R) 10.30 **Friday Night Dinner.** (R) 11.30 **Location, Location, Location.** (R) 2.35 **The Simpsons.** (R) 3.05 **The Simpsons.** (R) 4.00 Film: **17 Again.** (2009) Comedy, starring Matthew Perry and Zac Efron. 6.00 **Channel 4 News.** 6.20 **Film: Ice Age: Continental Drift.** (2012) A cataclysm leaves prehistoric animals Manny, Sid and Diego lost at sea on a drifting iceberg. They try to find a way to return home, embarking on a journey that leads to an encounter with a ferocious band of piratical creatures. Animated comedy sequel, with the voices of Ray Romano and Paul Rudd. 7.35 **Film: The First Wives Club.** (1996) Revenge comedy, starring Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler and Diane Keaton. (R) 8.10 **Film: Herbie: Fully Loaded.** (2005) Disney comedy sequel, starring Lindsay Lohan and Michael Keaton. 8.35 **5 News Weekend.** 9.00 **Film: Star Trek: Generations.** (1994) USS Enterprise Captain Jean-Luc Picard must stop a deranged genius obsessed with gaining access to a mysterious energy source – regardless of the threat to his crew. He comes from an unlikely quarter – his long dead predecessor Captain James T Kirk. Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Patrick Stewart, William Shatner and Whoopi Goldberg. 9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother.** The latest from the star-studded compound, as the housemates – minus the one unceremoniously booted out as a result of Friday's early eviction – begin their second weekend together. 10.00 **The Bafta Britannia Awards 2015.** Jack Whitehall hosts the La-based ceremony recognising outstanding film and TV talent, with Meryl Streep, Sam Mendes and Harrison Ford among the honorees. 11.55 **Film: The River Wild.** (1994) A white-water rafting expert on holiday with her family is forced to help two fugitives make an escape down a raging river. Action thriller, Drama, with Kevin Bacon. 1.25 **SuperScrimpers: Winter Survival Tips.** (R) 2.20 **Come Dine with Me.** (R) 4.35 **Gadget Man.** (R) 5.00 **Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (R) 5.10 **Deal or No Deal.** (R)

## CHANNEL 5

6.00 **Milkshake! Peppa Pig.** 6.05 **Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) 6.20 **Angela Ballerina.** (R) 6.30 **Bob the Builder.** (R) 6.45 **Tickey Toc.** (R) 6.55 **Zack and Quack.** (R) 7.00 **Round and Custard.** (R) 7.45 **Matilda Wears a Party.** (R) 7.25 **Paw Patrol.** (R) 7.40 **Little Friends.** (R) 7.55 **Pip Ahoy.** (R) 8.10 **Blaze and the Monster Machines.** (R) 8.40 **Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) 8.55 **Wanda and the Alien.** (R) 9.10 **Jelly Jamm.** (R) 9.20 **Toby's Travelling Circus.** (R) 9.30 **Lazy Town.** (R) 9.55 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R) 10.30 **Funniest Fails, Falls & Flips.** (R) 10.55 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** (R) 11.55 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** (R) 12.50 **Film: Over Her Dead Body.** (2008) Supernatural romantic comedy, starring Eva Longoria and Paul Rudd. 2.35 **Film: The First Wives Club.** (1996) Revenge comedy, starring Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler and Diane Keaton. (R) 8.00 **Supernatural.** (2005) Disney comedy sequel, starring Lindsay Lohan and Michael Keaton. 3.45 **5 News Weekend.** 4.00 **Film: Star Trek: Generations.** (1994) USS Enterprise Captain Jean-Luc Picard must stop a deranged genius obsessed with gaining access to a mysterious energy source – regardless of the threat to his crew. He comes from an unlikely quarter – his long dead predecessor Captain James T Kirk. Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Patrick Stewart, William Shatner and Whoopi Goldberg. 9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother.** The latest from the star-studded compound, as the housemates – minus the one unceremoniously booted out as a result of Friday's early eviction – begin their second weekend together. 10.00 **The Bafta Britannia Awards 2015.** Jack Whitehall hosts the La-based ceremony recognising outstanding film and TV talent, with Meryl Streep, Sam Mendes and Harrison Ford among the honorees. 11.55 **Film: The River Wild.** (1994) A white-water rafting expert on holiday with her family is forced to help two fugitives make an escape down a raging river. Action thriller, Drama, with Kevin Bacon. 1.25 **SuperScrimpers: Winter Survival Tips.** (R) 2.20 **Come Dine with Me.** (R) 4.35 **Gadget Man.** (R) 5.00 **Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (R) 5.10 **Deal or No Deal.** (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three** 7.00 Pop's Greatest Dance crazes. 7.20 **The Voice UK.** 9.00 **Film: Puss in Boots.** (2011) 10.20 **Russell Howard's Good News Extra.** 11.05 **Family Guy.** 11.50 **American Dad!** 12.35 **Roward and Custard.** (R) 7.45 **Matilda Wears a Party.** (R) 7.25 **Paw Patrol.** (R) 7.40 **Little Friends.** (R) 7.55 **Pip Ahoy.** (R) 8.10 **Blaze and the Monster Machines.** (R) 8.40 **Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) 8.55 **Wanda and the Alien.** (R) 9.10 **Jelly Jamm.** (R) 9.20 **Toby's Travelling Circus.** (R) 9.30 **Lazy Town.** (R) 9.55 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R) 10.30 **Funniest Fails, Falls & Flips.** (R) 10.55 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** (R) 11.55 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** (R) 12.50 **Film: Over Her Dead Body.** (2008) Supernatural romantic comedy, starring Eva Longoria and Paul Rudd. 2.35 **Film: The First Wives Club.** (1996) Revenge comedy, starring Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler and Diane Keaton. (R) 8.00 **Supernatural.** (2005) Disney comedy sequel, starring Lindsay Lohan and Michael Keaton. 3.45 **5 News Weekend.** 4.00 **Film: Star Trek: Generations.** (1994) USS Enterprise Captain Jean-Luc Picard must stop a deranged genius obsessed with gaining access to a mysterious energy source – regardless of the threat to his crew. He comes from an unlikely quarter – his long dead predecessor Captain James T Kirk. Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Patrick Stewart, William Shatner and Whoopi Goldberg. 9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother.** The latest from the star-studded compound, as the housemates – minus the one unceremoniously booted out as a result of Friday's early eviction – begin their second weekend together. 10.00 **The Bafta Britannia Awards 2015.** Jack Whitehall hosts the La-based ceremony recognising outstanding film and TV talent, with Meryl Streep, Sam Mendes and Harrison Ford among the honorees. 11.55 **Film: The River Wild.** (1994) A white-water rafting expert on holiday with her family is forced to help two fugitives make an escape down a raging river. Action thriller, Drama, with Kevin Bacon. 1.25 **SuperScrimpers: Winter Survival Tips.** (R) 2.20 **Come Dine with Me.** (R) 4.35 **Gadget Man.** (R) 5.00 **Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (R) 5.10 **Deal or No Deal.** (R)

**BBC Four** 7.00 **India's Frontier Railways.** 8.00 **Empire of the Tsars: Romanov Russia.** with Lucy Worsley 9.00 **Darcey Bussell's Looking for Audrey.** 10.30 **Flamenco: Gypsy Soul.** 11.30 **Storyville: The Queen of Versailles.** 1.00 **Genesis: Together & Apart.** 2.30 **The Good Old Days.** 3.15 **ITV 2.** 12.55 **Take Me Out – The Gossip.** 2.00 **Catchphrase.** 2.45 **Film: Bean.** (1997) 4.30 **Film: The Lost World: Jurassic Park.** (1997) 7.00 **100 Years of Disney.** 8.00 **Pinocchio.** (1940) 9.00 **Film: The Queen.** (2003) 10.00 **Film: The Princess Diaries.** 11.55 **Film: The Last of the Lads.** 1.00 **Mags.** 12.50 **Reality Bites.** 2.05 **Planets.** 2.25 **Film: The Pianist.** (2002) 3.55 **Heartbreak.** 3.45 **ITV 4.** 11.10 **The Classic Car Show.** 12.10 **Kojak.** 3.05 **Film: Captain Newman MD.** (1964) 5.45 **Film: The 1967.** (1988) 7.00 **Premiership Rugby Union.** 9.00 **Film: The Keeper.** (2009) 11.05 **Film: Assassins.** (1995) 1.45 **Nitro Circus.** 2.05 **The Professionals.** 3.00 **Teleshopping.** 4.00 **12.30 Film: Space Chimps 2: Zartog Strikes Back.** (2010) 2.05 **The Big Bang Theory.** 3.20 **The Big Bang Theory.** 4.00 **Superheroes.** 6.30 **Film: Iron Man.** (2008) 9.00 **Marvel's Agents of SHIELD.** 10.00 **Tattoo Fixers.** 11.00 **Film: The Inbetweeners.** 12.10 **The IT Crowd.** 1.20 **Gogglebox.** 2.10 **Marvel's Agents of SHIELD.** 2.55 **Rules of Engagement.** 3.20 **Hollywoods.** 4.00 **Film: 11.00 My Darling Clementine.** (1946) 1.00 **August Rush.** (2007) 3.15 **Biggles.** (1986) 5.05 **Step Up 4: Miami Heat.** (2012) 7.00 **Ron Fat Boy Run.** (2007) 9.00 **Side Effects.** (2013) 11.00 **Haywire.** (2011) 1.00 **Wall Street.** (1987)

## WEDDINGS AND EVENTS

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## FILM CHOICES

## MONDAY

## Left to Die, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman devotes herself to freeing her wrongfully convicted mother from a brutal Ecuador prison. Fact-based drama, starring Barbara Hershey. (2012)

## TUESDAY

## A Simple Plan, BBC1, 11.40pm

Two brothers and a friend stumble on a fortune in unmarked small dollar bills in the wreckage of a plane and decide to squirrel it away for themselves. However, the strain of keeping the cache secret takes its toll as guilt, paranoia and greed change their relationship for ever. Sam Raimi's psychological thriller, starring Bill Paxton. (1998)

## WEDNESDAY

## Too Late to Say Goodbye, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman discovers her husband is having an affair and confides in a mystery man she meets on the internet. When her spouse's lover dies under suspicious circumstances, she fears he may have murdered her – or that her online friend is not as trustworthy as he appears. Drama, starring Stefanie von Pfetten, Rob Lowe and Yannick Bisson. (2009)



Eagle Eye, Friday, BBC1, 11.55pm

## THURSDAY

## Final Recourse, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A wealthy businesswoman spirals into substance abuse as a way of dealing with a tragedy, and, in the haze of a drunken stupor, she is kidnapped. Held in a makeshift prison by her captors, she goes through the agony of drug and alcohol withdrawal, before managing to escape and return home to her family. It's only then, however, that she realises someone close to home may have been behind her abduction. Thriller, starring Teri Polo and Chazz Palminteri. (2013)

## FRIDAY

## Eagle Eye, BBC1, 11.55pm

Two strangers find themselves on the run from the authorities when they receive mysterious phone calls informing them their lives are in danger. They are forced to follow the instructions of a woman who is tracking their every move, while at the same time trying to discover who is behind the conspiracy. Thriller, starring Shia LaBeouf. (2008)

## Derren Pushes things on to another level

**D**id your parents ask the question: "if they told you to jump off a roof, would you?"

Well, Derren Brown is putting that notion to the test this evening (sort of), as he returns to TV with arguably his most ambitious experiment to date – The Push.

But rather than directly instruct someone to jump from a great height, in this brand-new one-off psychological experiment, the multi-award-winning illusionist is aiming to persuade an unwitting member of the public to push another person off a roof, seemingly to their death.

According to Brown, this illusion will investigate the powers of social compliance and how authority, peer pressure or ideology can be used to make people carry out horrific acts.

Brown believes that when confronted with authority, our natural instinct is to unflinchingly obey.

"The world of social compliance is deeply fascinating one and hopefully we will take the viewer on a journey that will be disturbing and entertaining in equal measure," he says.

His subject is Chris Kingston, a 29-year-old member of the public who is unaware he's being filmed or manipulated at a distance, and the setting is the gala launch night of a fictitious new charity called Push.

Since the first broadcast of his first TV show Derren Brown: Mind Control in 2000, Brown has become increasingly well known.

His touring shows, as well as his TV specials often have fans eager with anticipation about what the 44-year-old is going to do next, and he has just finished a nationwide tour of his latest show Miracle in which he looked at the work of Christian evangelists and their supposed healing powers.

The master entertainer is almost unrecognisable from the spiky haired, goatee-bearded magician sort of a decade years ago.

But he looks back on his growing back catalogue of work with great pride, and two shows in particular stand out for him:

"Apocalypse and Hero At 30,000 Ft," he says.

"The fun of setting up and executing

what were essentially huge practical jokes, and the impact the shows made on their protagonists' lives, made them my personal favourites.

"I've remained close to both of the guys involved and they continue to do well."

This show should follow along similar lines, but whether or not Brown will still be on friendly terms with Kingston after basically duping him into an act of attempted murder this evening, remains to be seen.

The trickster's power to persuade and enthrall is still as strong as ever, but he insists there is nothing malicious about anything that he does.

"I am often dishonest in my techniques but I'm always honest about my dishonesty," he states.

One thing's for sure, after an hour watching him tonight you will once again be sat perplexed, asking that age-old Brown question: "How has he done that?"

So sit back, take a deep breath, and try to get your grey matter around how he has pulled off his latest act of Derren-do.



Derren Brown: Pushed To The Edge, Tuesday, Channel 4, 9pm

## BEST OF THE REST

## MONDAY

## How To Lose Weight Well

## Channel 4, 8pm

New series. In Britain, around 11 million people – almost one in six of the population – are on some form of diet; many in a bid to slim down for a particular event. In this programme, Dr Xand van Tulleken and dietician Hale El-Shafie help six people go on the most hyped and written about diets on the market, with the volunteers divided into Crashers on short-term regimens, Shape Shifters on six-week programmes, and Life Changers on four-month plans. In the first episode, Katie and Rachael want to slim down before a weekend getaway, and have just 10 days to do so.

## TUESDAY

## Stargazing 2016

## BBC2, 9pm

Just under a month ago, Professor Brian Cox and the ever-inquisitive Dara O Briain headed up the BBC's coverage of Tim Peake's journey to the International Space Station. Now they're back, and although a new run of Stargazing Live might not be quite as nail-biting, it remains hugely entertaining for astronomers and plucky amateurs alike. Here's hoping they get plenty of clear skies when they take up residence at Jodrell Bank Observatory in

Cheshire for the next three nights. Stay tuned when the programme finishes at 10pm for spin-off show Stargazing: Back to Earth, in which the duo lead a discussion with experts and the studio audience about all things astronomical.

## WEDNESDAY

## Mary Portas: Secret Shopper

## Channel 4, 8pm

When it comes to getting the lowdown on Britain's high street, nobody does it better than Mary Portas. Last week, she began a new run of this series, in which she works with some of our best-known brands, as well as more obscure firms, to give shoppers the kind of service they deserve. This time around, Portas heads off to Kent, where hair salon Shobie and Co is in trouble thanks to an ever-widening rift between the staff and the business's owners. This regularly results in foul-mouthed rants on the shop floor, which is driving customers away. It's Portas' job to get everyone singing from the same hymn sheet, although that could be easier said than done. However, if she doesn't succeed, it's likely that Shobie and Co will be no more.

## THURSDAY

## Birds of a Feather

## ITV, 8.30pm

When the first episode of this sitcom aired all the way back in 1989, it saw Tracey discovering that her husband Darryl owed his fortune to his sideline as an armed robber rather than his day job building conservatories. So somehow it seems strangely fitting that this week, Tracey gets home from her ex's funeral to discover the house has been burgled. However, the family don't have long to reflect on the irony of the situation, as they decide to track down their possessions instead.

It's a quest that takes them to a snooker hall, a pawnbroker, and perhaps somewhat more unexpectedly, the infamous Theydyn Boys drag club.

## FRIDAY

## That's So 1985

## Channel 5, 8pm

2016 has only just started, but

## Birds of a Feather, Thursday, ITV, 8.30pm

Channel 5 is already inviting us to cast our minds back to an earlier time, when Sinclair C5's briefly looked like the future of transport, and Bob Geldof caused almost as much as a stir for swearing on live TV as he did for trying to tackle famine in Ethiopia. Yes, this nostalgic new series looking at eight key years from the 1980s and 1990s begins with a look at 1985, one of the most remarkable years of the decade. As well as reminiscing about such pop culture highlights as Live Aid, Nick Kamen disrobing in a laundrette to sell jeans, and the launch of MTV, the programme also examines some of the more serious events making headlines. It recalls how the world of football was shaken by two major tragedies, the political changes taking place in Russia, and the sinking of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior.

## Shetland

## BBC1, 9pm

New series. On board the Aberdeen to Shetland ferry, a woman witnesses an altercation between two men – one of whom subsequently goes missing. Later, a young boy is admitted to intensive care after consuming pills his mistook for sweets found on the beach. DJ Jimmy Perez searches the shoreline and recovers a rucksack containing more pills and a ferry ticket – which a hooded figure tries to snatch from him.

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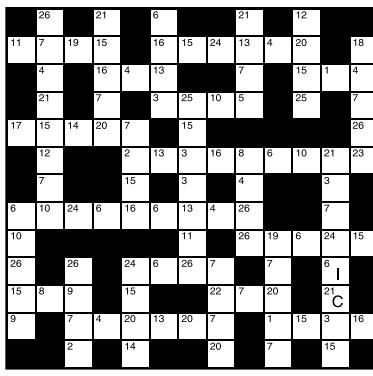
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## BRAIN GYM No.359

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	G	K	C	Y	Z	M	N	E	T	W	O	L
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
X	A	R	I	D	J	F	V	S	P	U	Q	H

## Quiz

1. Of which planet is Rhea a satellite?
2. Where, precisely, is the Sargasso Sea?
3. In which American state is the city of Yonkers?
4. What sort of a bird is a wryneck?
5. How did British soldier Orde Wingate die?
6. What is the fifth note of a musical scale?
7. What is scrimshaw?
8. Which architect designed the 1851 Crystal Palace?
9. In Australian slang, what does 'the good oil' mean?
10. What is a gibbus?

## Last week's solutions:

**Quiz:** 1 Spain; 2 Wystan Hugh; 3 Cuba; 4 The person in charge of moving and setting up camera tracks and scenery; 5 Daedalus; 6 Skirt-like garment worn by Polynesians; 7 Leo; 8 1971; 9 Orchid; 10 Terence Rattigan.  
**Niner:** DIPLOMATS

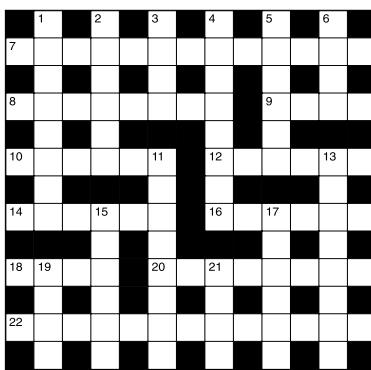
## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

1. The way to cite arrangement as exciting pity (8)
2. Fish I get in position (6)
3. A tree in the hand (4)
4. Status as a candidate (8)
5. Where pupils grow in our eyes (6)
6. Transaction in wood? (4)
11. They don't intend one to go bare-backed (8)
13. It's as you were without small coins (2,6)
15. Snub polish again (6)
17. In company, waywardly conceals it by whatever means (6)
20. Time to jump? (4,4)
22. Take court action, but don't expect it free (6,1,6)



## Quick Clues:

## Down

1. Newman (8)
2. Alight (6)
3. Shape (4)
4. Feeler (8)
5. Discount (6)
6. Twilight (4)
11. Frail (8)
13. Patron (8)
15. Decomposed (6)
17. Admission (6)
19. Incursion (4)
21. Protection (4)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >  
7 3 9 5 6 2 4 8 1  
2 4 5 7 8 3 6 9  
8 6 1 4 9 3 7 5 2  
6 2 4 1 8 7 5 9 3  
9 7 3 5 4 6 8 1  
3 1 8 6 7 5 1 2 4  
4 8 2 6 3 1 9 7 5  
5 1 7 9 2 4 8 3 6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Snip; 8 Imposition; 9 Shortage; 10 Reap; 12 Swords; 14 Stolon; 15 Stoves; 17 Better; 18 Then; 19 Derision; 21 Minute-book; 22 Eddy. Down: 2 Night-watch; 3 Pier; 4 Spears; 5 Assess; 6 Start out; 7 Snap; 11 Above-board; 13 Rafters; 16 Soden; 17 Barrow; 18 Tome; 20 Water. Crossword: 1 Ape; 2 Sire; 3 Rate; 4 Economic; 10 Type; 12 Script; 14 Stress; 15 Paused; 17 Punish; 18 Ena; 19 Malapert; 21 Discretion; 22 Gate. Down: 2 Witchcraft; 3 Yawn; 4 Permit; 5 Pisces; 6 Brethren; 7 Dene; 11 Postscript; 13 Instance; 16 Dampen; 17 Pallid; 18 Ends; 20 Pang.

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# Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



## Estate agents you can trust

For most of us buying or selling a home is the most expensive – and stressful – thing we will ever do.

Some research has even found people claiming it was more painful than being made redundant, getting divorced or even going bankrupt.

So it is absolutely vital to make the right choice when deciding whether to use a traditional estate agent, an online house selling website, one of the new 'hybrid' agents or even just going it alone.

And if you decide to use an estate agent, it is equally vital to make sure you choose the right one for you.

The best way to be reassured that you are putting yourself in good hands is to look out for the NAEA logo.

The National Association of Estate Agents is the UK's leading professional body for estate agency personnel, being part of a group representing 13,000 members who practice across all aspects of property services both in the UK and overseas.

These include residential and commercial sales and lettings, property management, business transfer, auctioneering and land. The NAEA is also a sister organisation to the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA).

NAEA is dedicated to the goal of professionalism within all aspects of property, estate agency and land. Its aim is to reassure the general public that by appointing an NAEA member to represent them they will receive in return the highest level of integrity and service for all property matters. Both NAEA and ARLA



members are bound by a vigorously enforced Code of Practice and adhere to professional Rules of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in heavy financial penalties and possible expulsion from the associations.

With house prices back on the up, largely because demand for homes currently far outweighs the supply, the property market has become even more of a minefield than in previous years.

Mark Hayward, managing director at the National Association of Estate Agents, says: "In such a lively market, it's important that agents are delivering exceptional standards of service.

"Consumers need to ensure that they are looking for the NAEA logo in estate agents' windows, doors and on websites. NAEA agents integrate high quality and best practice services in to everything they do.

"They are regulated and adhere to a strict code of practice. Whilst problems can and do arise during the process of buying or selling a home, using a NAEA agent will put consumers' minds at ease that any issues can be dealt with in a professional and safe manner."

Research carried out by the association for its Look for the Logo campaign found nearly two thirds – 60 per cent – of home buyers and

sellers had faced problems with their estate agents over the last five years, but 39 per cent had not considered whether their agents were regulated or not. That meant their agent might not have been signed up to a code of conduct or have any regulatory body overseeing them. More than a third of those taking part in the survey (37 per cent) admitted that their problems could have been avoided if their agent was better regulated.

The biggest complaint from the UK's property market was the fact that their estate agent had bad communication skills – either not calling them back, or chasing them too much (21 per cent). A further one in seven (14 per cent) felt as though their agent didn't care about them.

An additional 13 per cent claimed that their estate agent had not told them about known faults in properties they were looking at.

Mark Hayward said: "Buying a property is the biggest purchase and financial commitment of your life, and can be an overwhelming experience. It takes a lot of hard work and research to ensure you are ticking all the right boxes, and no doubt people come across many challenges along the way. An estate agent should really be there to help this process, not hinder, and therefore the choice of which agent to go with is an important one."

"With the extensive administrative tasks and processes involved in buying or selling a home, communication between agents and homeowners is essential. It's the estate agents' role to make these processes seem as pain-free and seamless as possible, which regulated agents endeavour to do."

### Problems faced by the buyer and seller



Bad communication – either not calling enough, or chasing too much: 21 per cent

Buyer or seller felt as if the agent didn't care about them: 14 per cent

Not being informed about known property faults, e.g. – structural issues, damp, etc: 13 per cent

Making promises they could not keep: 11 per cent

Being too pressurising: 10 per cent

Over exaggerating a property description: 10 per cent

Over pricing a property that a buyer is interested in: nine per cent

Feeling as if the agent was dishonest: nine per cent

The agent not having all the information the buyer or seller needed e.g. service charges, council tax: eight per cent

Not being able to contact the agent: eight per cent

Not putting the right offers to vendors: six per cent

Agents forgetting who the buyer or seller was (too many buyers or sellers on the agents' books at one time): six per cent

## She's sold

Turn to your local estate agent to sell your property and you will be **SOLD ON:**

- Professional accredited local agent service
- Free valuation
- Local area knowledge
- Adverts in local newspapers, online and office window display
- Registered house hunters
- Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.



March Banks  
Rugeley

- Four Bedroom Detached House
- Deceptively Spacious
- Great Family Home
- Three Reception Rooms
- Integral Garage
- EPC = C



New!

Offers around  
£195,000

Herondale  
Hednesford



£92,500

- Two Bedroom Maisonette
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- EPC = TBA

Robins Croft  
Heath Hayes



£225,000

- Four Bedroom Detached Home
- Popular Residential Estate
- Dining Room, Kitchen
- Utility, Guest WC
- Garage & Parking
- EPC = TBA

Wolverhampton Road  
Cannock



£88,000

- Town Centre Location
- Well Presented Two Bed Apartment
- Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- Parking To Rear
- No Upward Chain
- EPC = E

Burgoyne Street  
Hednesford



£155,000

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Lounge Diner
- Downstairs WC
- Large Rear Garden
- Garage
- EPC = D

Pye Green Road  
Hednesford



£215,000

- Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Modernisation Required
- Generous Gardens
- Garage
- NO CHAIN
- EPC = D

The Poplars  
Cannock



£120,000

- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Living Room/Diner
- Designated Parking
- EPC = D

Ford Way  
Rugeley



£165,000

- Ideal Family Home
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Kitchen Opening To Conservatory
- Lounge & Study
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- EPC = D

Main Road  
Brereton



£125,000

- Converted School House
- Two Generous Bedrooms
- Quirky & Individual Design
- Open Plan Ground Floor
- Viewing Essential
- EPC = C

Woodford End  
Chadsmoor



£62,500

- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Ideal For Investor Or FTB
- One Bedroom
- Spacious Accommodation
- Parking and Garage
- EPC = C

Ebenezer Street  
Hednesford



£100,000

- End Of Terrace House
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking To Rear
- Ideal First time Buyer
- EPC = TBA

Burns Street  
Cannock



£140,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Kitchen Diner
- Full Width Conservatory
- Corner Plot
- Forecourt Parking
- EPC = E

Ivy Lane  
Cannock Wood



£325,000

- Three Bedroom Detached House
- Village Location
- Deceptively Spacious
- Two Reception Rooms
- Integral Garage
- EPC = D

Stafford Street  
Heath Hayes



Spotlight!  
Featured Property

Offers around  
£120,000



"8 Branch regional coverage mea

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LIKELY TO  
WITH DB R



LET

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your **FREE** va

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Sundays & Bank Holidays 10am

\*Terms and Conditions apply. Please visit [www.dbroberts.co.uk](http://www.dbroberts.co.uk)

Braemar Road  
Norton Canes



£150,000

- Modern Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Refitted En Suite
- Play Room (Converted Garage)
- No Upward Chain
- EPC = D

Langholm Drive  
Heath Hayes



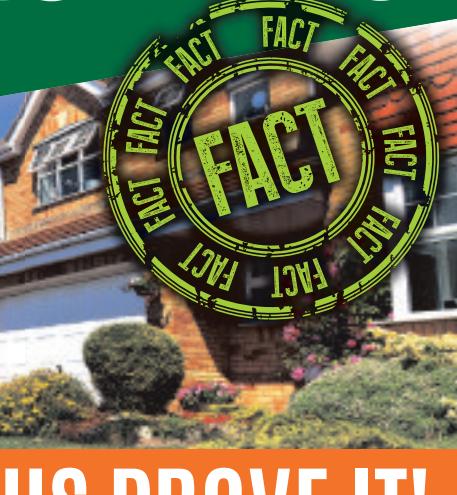
£120,000

- Ideal Starter Home
- Two Bed Semi Det
- Lounge & Conserv
- Rear Garden
- Forecourt Parking
- EPC = D

ns more buyers."

NAEA Zoopla

# SEE MORE TO SELL ROBERTS



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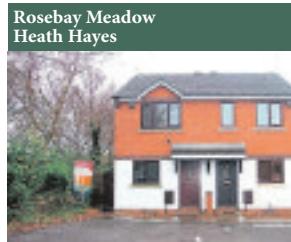


for more details.



4,995

ached  
atory



£130,000

- No Chain & Refurbished Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Popular Location
- Off Road Parking
- Semi - Detached
- EPC = TBA

Call us: Monday - Friday 8am - 8pm  
Saturday 9am - 4pm and Sundays 10am - 4pm



Strathmore Place  
Cannock



£290,000

- Cul-de-Sac location
- Three Bed Detached House
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- EPC = TBA

Ascot Drive  
Cannock



£135,000

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Kitchen With Dining Area
- Lounge
- Off Road Parking To Front
- Convenient Access To Town
- EPC = D

Nelson Drive  
Hednesford

- Detached House
- Four Good Size Bedrooms (One En Suite)
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- No Chain
- EPC = C



New!

Offers around  
£225,000



Longford Road  
Cannock



Guide price £115,000

- Auction T&C's Apply
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Perfect For Modernisation
- Living Room/Diner
- Good Size Plot & Parking
- EPC = TBA

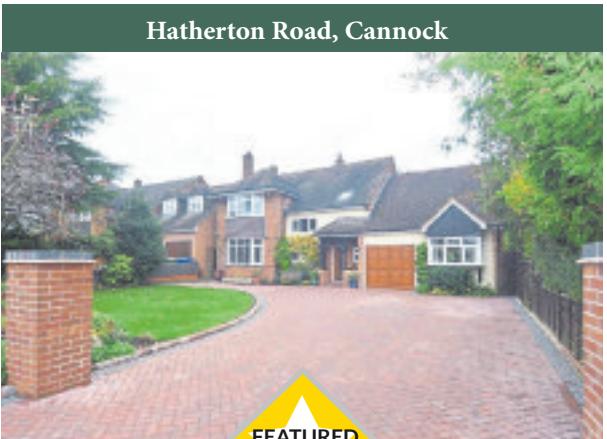
Cowley Green  
Hednesford



£159,999

- Semi Detached
- Two Bedrooms
- Refitted Wet Room
- Conservatory
- Driveway With Ample Parking
- EPC = D

Hatherton Road, Cannock



FEATURED  
PROPERTY!

POA



Price Street  
Cannock



£44,750

- Over 55's
- One Bedroom
- Spacious Apartment
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazed
- EPC = TBA

Old Fallow Road  
Cannock



£115,000

- Ideal First Time Buyer Home
- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Rear Garden & Parking
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- EPC = E

Dartmouth Road  
Cannock



£250,000

- Three Bed Detached House
- Desirable Location
- Master With En Suite
- South Facing Garden
- Off Road Parking
- EPC = D

Church Hill  
Hednesford



£127,950

- Terraced House
- Three Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Gardens To Rear
- Garage
- EPC = TBA



Offers around  
£190,000

Railway View, Hednesford



◆ EPC C



£200,000

This four bedroom modern, double fronted three storey detached property is being sold with vacant possession.

Huntington Terrace Road, Cannock



◆ Awaiting EPC



£125,000

Viewing is recommended on this well presented, three bedroom extended semi-detached property.

Attingham Drive, Dudley



◆ Awaiting EPC

£85,000

A two bedroom upper floor apartment briefly comprising lounge/kitchen, bathroom, master bedroom with en-suite and allocated parking.

Dudley Port, Tipton



◆ EPC E

£84,950

A two bedroom end terraced property comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom and front and rear gardens.

Princess Street, Cannock



◆ Awaiting EPC



£85,000

This three bedroom semi detached property is being sold with vacant possession and offers a rental yield of 7%.

Public Notice



◆ EPC D

£285,000

22 Ravenscroft Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 8AH. We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £301,500. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place. EPC Rating: (D)

Public Notice



◆ EPC C

£130,000

42 Baldwin Road, Stourport On Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 9AZ. We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £122,000. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place. EPC Rating: C.

Loxdale Sidings, Bilston



◆ EPC B

£69,950

One bedroom apartment comprising lounge, kitchen and allocated parking. Viewing is highly recommended.

Loxdale Sidings, Bilston



◆ EPC C

£72,950

One bedroom upper floor apartment benefitting from allocated parking. Viewing is highly recommended.

Loxdale Sidings, Bilston



◆ EPC B

£69,950

One bedroom upper floor apartment comprising lounge, kitchen, bathroom and allocated parking. Viewing is highly recommended.

Alexander Road, Acocks Green



◆ EPC E

£190,000

Offered with no chain is this five bedroom traditional end terraced property in need of modernisation.

Stonefield Close, Coventry



◆ Awaiting EPC

£165,000

A well presented semi detached property comprising three bedrooms and lounge/diner. Further benefits from gardens and off road parking.

The Crescent, Bromsgrove



◆ EPC C

£60,000

A two bedroom ground floor retirement apartment benefitting from communal gardens and resident parking.



01543  
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153 Avon Road  
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W: webbsestateagents.co.uk

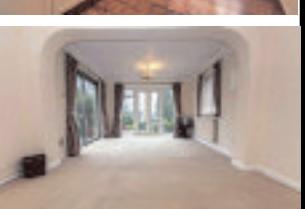
*Free  
Valuations*

*No Sale  
No Fee*

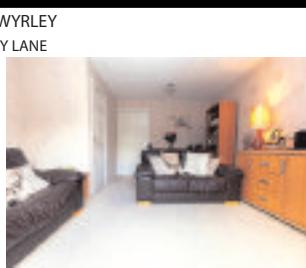
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Sales Team*

*Established 1994*



<p><b>GREAT WYRLEY</b> BROADMEADOW LANE</p>    		<p><b>HUNTINGTON</b> TEDDESLEY WAY</p>    	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detached House</li> <li>• Porch, Entrance Hallway</li> <li>• Lounge, Kitchen</li> <li>• Dining Room, Conservatory</li> <li>• Sitting Area/Snug</li> </ul> <p><b>£269,950</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study/Bed 4</li> <li>• Refitted Bathroom</li> <li>• Four Beds</li> <li>• Refitted Shower Room</li> <li>• Store Room/Workshop</li> </ul>	
<p><b>CANNOCK</b> MITRE ROAD</p>    		<p><b>HEDNESFORD</b> SANDPIPER CLOSE</p>    	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi detached House</li> <li>• Entrance Porch</li> <li>• Hallway</li> <li>• Lounge/Diner</li> </ul> <p><b>£114,950</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kitchen Diner</li> <li>• Conservatory</li> <li>• Three Bedrooms</li> <li>• Shower Room</li> <li>• Landscape Gardens</li> </ul>	
<p><b>HEDNESFORD</b> CHURCH HILL</p>    		<p><b>HUNTINGTON</b> HEATHBANK DRIVE</p>    	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detached Bungalow</li> <li>• Lounge</li> <li>• Dining Room</li> <li>• Re Fitted Kitchen</li> </ul> <p><b>£244,950</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four Bedrooms</li> <li>• Bathroom</li> <li>• Integral Garage</li> <li>• Landscape Gardens</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi Detached House</li> <li>• Hallway</li> <li>• Lounge</li> <li>• New Kitchen/Diner</li> </ul> <p><b>£154,950</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three Bedrooms</li> <li>• New Shower Room</li> <li>• Tandem Carport</li> <li>• Driveway</li> <li>• Gardens</li> </ul>	

*"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"*

GREAT WYRLEY  
GORSEY LANE

- 3 Storey Family Home
- Through Hallway
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen

- Guest W.C.
- 3 Bedrooms, En-Suite
- Bathroom
- Garage, Gardens

£170,000

CANNOCK  
SANKEY ROAD

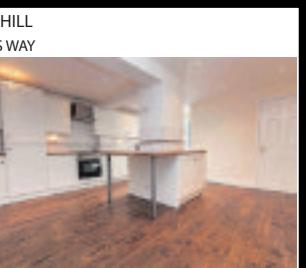
- Semi Detached Home
- Hallway, Lounge/diner
- Refitted Kitchen/ utility area
- 3 Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom

• Separate WC

• Driveway, Gardens

• NO CHAIN

£109,950

SHOAL HILL  
DOWNES WAY

- Extended family home
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Utility

£190,000

RAWNSLEY  
RAWNSLEY ROAD

- Mid Terraced
- Formal Lounge
- Re Fitted Kitchen
- Dining Room

- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garden

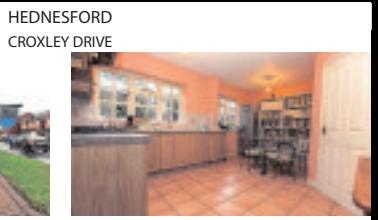
£110,000

GREAT WYRLEY  
JOHN'S LANE

- Extended Family Home
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining Room, Kitchen
- Guest WC
- Bathroom, 3

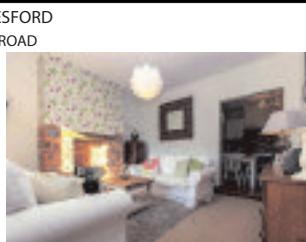
- Bedrooms
- Gardens, Driveway
- Internal Viewing Essential.

£139,950

HEDNESFORD  
CROXLEY DRIVE

- Four Bedrooms
- En-Suite, Bathroom
- Detached Garage
- Gardens

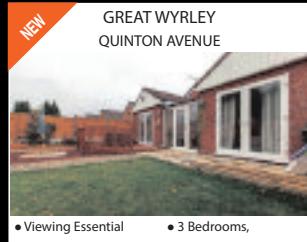
Offers Over £350,000

HEDNESFORD  
BELT ROAD

- Traditional Det Cottage
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Dining Room/Reception Two
- Kitchen/Diner
- Utility Room, Guest W.C.

- Three Bedrooms,
- En-Suite, Bathroom
- Detached Garage
- Landscape Gardens

£219,950

GREAT WYRLEY  
QUINTON AVENUE

- Viewing Essential
- Detached Bungalow
- Porch, Kitchen
- Lounge, Dining Room

- 3 Bedrooms, Conservatory
- Bathroom, en-suite
- Landscape Gardens

£209,950

HEDNESFORD  
GREENWOOD PARK

- Detached Family Home
- Close to Cannock Chase
- Rec. Hallway
- Lounge/Diner

- Fitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Garage
- Garden, Driveway

£169,950

HEDNESFORD  
COPPERMILL CLOSE

- Detached Bungalow
- Reception Hallway
- Lounge/ Diner
- Kitchen

- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Gardens

£154,950

RAWNSLEY  
ST.CHRISTOPHER CLOSE

- Detached Family Home
- Through Hallway
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Kitchen, Utility Room

- Guest W.C.
- Five Bedrooms
- Bathroom, En-Suite
- Garage, Gardens

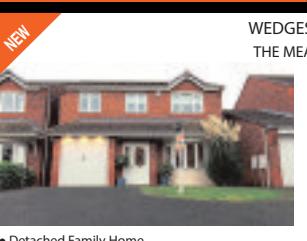
£259,950

GREAT WYRLEY  
WARDLES LANE

- Detached House
- Corner Plot
- Hallway
- Lounge / Diner
- Kitchen, Utility

- Four Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- GCH, Upvc D.G.
- Garage, Driveway

£220,000

WEDGES MILLS  
THE MEADOWS

- Detached Family Home
- Through Hallway, WC
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory, Kitchen

£315,000

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**NORTON CANES**  
WOODFIELD CLOSE

Unfurnished Detached House  
Separate Shower  
Bathroom  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Kitchen Diner  
3 Bedrooms  
Family Bathroom  
Conservatory

**£700 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**CHESLYN HAY**  
STATION STREET

Unfurnished Semi Detached  
House  
Double Glazing  
Rear Garden  
Parking  
EPC Rating F  
Kitchen  
3 Bedrooms  
Shower Room

**£675 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**CHESLYN HAY**  
STATION STREET

Unfurnished Lounge  
Dining Room  
Kitchen  
3 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£625 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEATH HAYES**  
REMBRANDT CLOSE

Unfurnished Semi Detached  
House  
Conservatory  
Rear Garden  
Parking  
EPC Rating E  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£550 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**GREAT WYRLEY**  
AJAX CLOSE

Unfurnished Terrace House  
Double Glazing  
Front & Rear  
Garden  
Parking  
EPC Rating E  
Kitchen  
3 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£550 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**CANNOCK**  
BEECH TREE COURT

Unfurnished 2nd Floor Flat  
Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen  
Double Glazing  
Parking  
EPC Rating C  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Front & Rear  
Garden  
Parking  
EPC Rating C  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**CANNOCK**  
QUEEN STREET

Unfurnished Terrace House  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Rear Garden  
EPC Rating D  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEATH HAYES**  
HELIGAN PLACE

Unfurnished Town House  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Rear Garden  
Parking  
EPC Rating C  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**NORTON CANES**  
NORTON TERRACE

Unfurnished Ground Floor Flat  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Rear Garden  
Allocated Parking  
Attractive  
Communal  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

**£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**BLOXWICH**  
MAY STREET

Unfurnished Terrace House  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Rear Garden  
Allocated Parking  
EPC Rating D  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

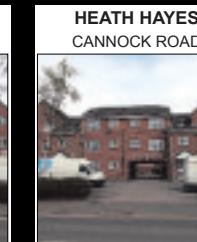
**£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEATH HAYES**  
CANNOCK ROAD

Unfurnished Ground Floor Flat  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Allocated Parking  
EPC Rating C  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

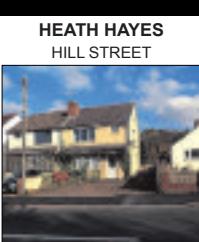
**£475 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEATH HAYES**  
CANNOCK ROAD

Unfurnished First Floor Flat  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Parking  
EPC Rating C  
Gas Central  
Double Glazing  
Parking  
EPC Rating C  
Kitchen  
2 Bedrooms  
Bathroom

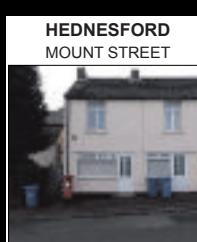
**£475 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEATH HAYES**  
HILL STREET

Unfurnished Ground Floor Flat  
Gas Central  
Heating  
Double Glazing  
Parking  
EPC Rating C  
Kitchen  
1 Bedroom  
Bathroom

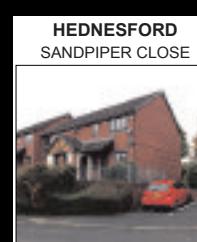
**£400 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEDNESFORD**  
MOUNT STREET

Unfurnished Ground Floor Flat  
Electric Heating  
Double Glazing  
Open Plan  
Lounge/Kitchen  
Allocated Parking  
EPC Rating D  
Bathroom  
1 Bedroom  
Shower Room

**£400 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEDNESFORD**  
SANDPIPER CLOSE

Partly Furnished Lounge  
Fitted Kitchen  
1 Bedroom  
Bathroom with  
Shower

**£395 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEATH HAYES**  
PICASSO CLOSE

Unfurnished First Floor Flat  
Heating  
Allocated Parking  
EPC Rating D  
Fitted Kitchen  
1 Bedroom  
Bathroom

**£375 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEDNESFORD**  
GREENSLADE GROVE

Unfurnished Ground Floor Flat  
Electric Heating  
Parking  
EPC Rating D  
Kitchen  
1 Bedroom  
Bathroom

**£365 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



**HEDNESFORD**  
ST STEPHENS COURT

Unfurnished First Floor Flat  
Electric Heating  
Double Glazing  
Parking  
EPC Rating D  
Kitchen  
1 Bedroom  
Bathroom

**£350 pcm & FEES - NO DSS**



PROPERTIES

enquiries@jrpropertiesstuffs.com  
www.jrpropertiesstuffs.com

“Serving Rugeley



NEW

The Lindens, Rugeley

- Spacious three storey end terraced property
- Hallway, kitchen/ diner, lounge, guest wc
- Three good size bedrooms, two bathrooms
- Garage and driveway with gardens
- No Chain, viewing essential

£159,950



NEW

Canaway Walk, Etching Hill

- Spacious family home in popular location
- Offered with No Chain and viewing essential
- Three good size bedrooms, refitted bathroom
- Large lounge, kitchen and conservatory
- Front and rear gardens with plentiful parking

£199,950



MUST BE VIEWED

Somerset Avenue, Rugeley

- Well positioned detached home on large plot
- Hallway, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen
- Three good size bedrooms, shower room and bathroom
- Garage, large driveway, very large rear gardens
- Must be viewed, huge potential on offer

£184,950



NEW PRICE

STAR BUY

Stag Close, Etching Hill

- Spacious three bedroom link detached house
- Popular location with green area to front
- Hallway, two reception rooms, kitchen, conservatory
- Three good size bedrooms and family bathroom
- Garage, driveway and private gardens

£184,950 Guide Price

We're Selling...  
Are You..?  
CALL US FOR YOUR  
FREE  
VALUATION



CHARACTER

Hednesford Road, Rugeley

- Traditional detached property in popular location
- Lovely large mature gardens that must be viewed
- Three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen
- Workshop/ garage, huge potential on offer
- Must be viewed and offered with No Chain

£265,000 Offers Invited



VILLAGE  
LOCATION

- Lovely detached bungalow in village location
- Hallway, large lounge, modern kitchen
- Large conservatory, refitted shower room
- Private gardens, driveway, carport and garage
- Must be viewed, Superb value

£225,000 Guide Price

“Serving Rugeley”



01889 577731  
Horsefair, Rugeley, WS15 2EJ



# and its Villages"

# JR

PROPERTIES

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[www.jrpropertiesstuffs.com](http://www.jrpropertiesstuffs.com)

The Laurels, Brereton



- Two bedroom retirement bungalow
- Offered on a sheltered housing scheme
- Hallway, kitchen, lounge, two good size bedrooms
- Communal gardens and parking
- No Chain, superb value

£105,000

NEW



St Thomas Way,  
Hawksyard

- Well presented one bedroom first floor apartment
- Ideal FTB/ INvestment purchase with No Chain
- Communal hallway, lounge, breakfast kitchen
- Good size master bedroom and modern bathroom
- Two allocated parking spaces, must be viewed

£94,950

NEW  
PRICE



Bower Lane Cottages,  
Rugeley

- Lovely traditional semi detached property
- Open fields and views surrounding, good size plot
- Hallway, lounge, breakfast kitchen, dining room
- Conservatory, three good size bedrooms, bathroom
- Gardens to three sides and plentiful off road parking

£299,950 Guide Price

Rishworth Avenue, Rugeley



- Spacious semi detached property backing onto Canal
- Good location with No Upward Chain
- Hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory
- Three good size bedrooms, bathroom
- Gardens with driveway and garage

£169,950

NEW  
PRICE



Pear Tree Court, Rugeley

- Spacious three storey property in good location
- Four good size bedrooms and three bathrooms
- Hallway, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen
- Utility room, front and rear gardens with garage
- Viewing essential of this spacious property

£195,000 Guide Price

SOLD



Briar Close, Etching Hill

- Good size link detached family home
- Popular location with No Upward Chain
- Refitted kitchen, two large reception rooms
- Three bedrooms and shower room
- Garage with driveway, Offers Invited

£169,950 Offers Invited

We're Selling...  
Are You..?  
CALL US FOR YOUR  
FREE  
VALUATION

NEW



The Beeches, Rugeley

- Spacious three bedroom terraced property
- Ideal FTB/Investment purchase that must be viewed
- Hallway, extended large lounge/ diner, kitchen
- Three good size bedrooms, refitted bathroom
- Garage and gardens with driveway

£124,950

NEW



Hednesford Road, Rugeley

- Stunning extended traditional semi detached home
- Four good size bedrooms, main bathroom and guest wc
- Hallway, two reception rooms, refitted kitchen
- Large conservatory and study room
- Front and rear gardens with plentiful parking

£249,950

Fernwood Drive, Rugeley



- Well presented three bedroom semi detached
- Ideal FTB/ Investment purchase
- Hallway, lounge, kitchen, dining room
- Three bedrooms, modern bathroom
- Garage and gardens, viewing essential

£124,950 Guide Price

NEW



Pool Meadow Close,  
Rugeley

- Well presented detached family home
- Popular location with fields to rear
- Four good size bedrooms, two reception rooms
- Two bathrooms, kitchen and conservatory
- Beautiful gardens, viewing essential

£265,000



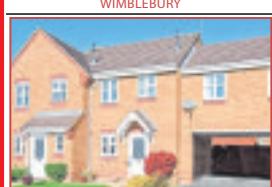
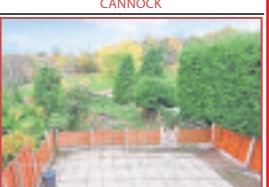
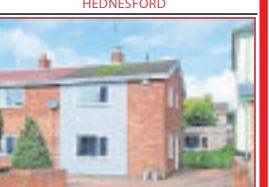
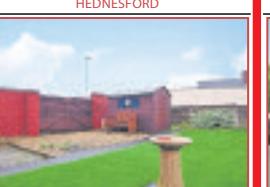
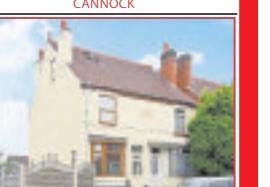
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0.9%\*  
INCLUDING VAT FEE

\* terms and conditions apply

<b>Jacobs Hall Lane</b> GREAT WYRLEY	<b>Rugeley Road</b> HAZEL SLADE	<b>The Old Rectory</b> RUGELEY	<b>The Green</b> RUGELEY	<b>The Meadows</b> CANNOCK	<b>Horsey Lane</b> CANNOCK
					
Seven bedroom character property / set over 2 acres of land / Electric gated private access / Farmhouse kitchen / En-suite to master £800,000	Immaculately Presented Five Bedroom Detached Family Home / Fantastic Semi Rural Location With Countryside Views / High Spec Finish Throughout / Impressive Home Automation System / Stunning £480,000	Immaculately Presented Five Bedroom Barn Style Property / Sought After Village Location / Spacious Reception & Bedrooms / Delightful Countryside Views / High Spec Kitchen With Integrated Appliances £450,000	Three bedroom detached house / Grade II character property / Gravel drive for several vehicles / Separate office-studio Offers in Excess of £390,000	Executive Six Bedroom Detached Family Home / Large Reception Style Conservatory / Finished To A High Specification Throughout / Stunning Open Plan Dining Kitchen / Six Double Bedrooms £365,000	Bespoke purpose built two/three bedroom bungalow / large plot with private rear garden / spacious receptions rooms / games room on first floor / good local schools Offers in Excess of £320,000
<b>Adelaide Drive</b> WIMBLEBURY	<b>Berwyn Grove</b> CHESLYN HAY	<b>Rawnsley Road</b> HEDNESFORD	<b>Colliers Way</b> HUNTINGTON	<b>Trentham Close</b> HEATH HAYES	<b>Watermint Close</b> WIMBLEBURY
					
Four Bedroom Executive Detached House / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Victorian Conservatory / Four Double Bedrooms / Detached Double Garage / High Spec Finish Offers in the Region Of £320,000	Deceptively Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow / Well Appointed Bathroom Suite / Double Bedrooms / Large Rear Garden With Gazebo And Hot Tub / Spacious Reception Rooms £290,000	Four Bedroom Detached House / Peaceful Semi Rural Location / Stunning Picturesque Views / Substantial Secluded Private Rear Garden With Natural Stream £285,000	Immaculately Presented Five Bedroom Detached House / Set Over Three Storeys / Five Double Bedrooms / Driveway With Ample Parking / Single Garage / Modern Open Plan Kitchen-Diner Offers in the Region Of £279,950	Five Bedroom Detached Family Home / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Victorian Conservatory / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Situated At End Of Quiet Cul-De-Sac £250,000	Four Bedroom Detached House / Quiet Cul-De-Sac Overlooking Large Pond / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Modern Kitchen With Breakfast Room / Driveway With Ample Parking £230,000
<b>Bellamour Way</b> RUGELEY	<b>Chadsfield Road</b> RUGELEY	<b>Bank Street</b> HEATH HAYES	<b>Rowan Close</b> HUNTINGTON	<b>Somerset Avenue</b> RUGELEY	<b>Fremantle Drive</b> WIMBLEBURY
					
Two Bedroom Semi Detached Cottage / Tastefully Decorated & Renovated To A Good Standard Throughout / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / NO ONWARD CHAIN £200,000	Spacious detached property / Generous living & sleeping accommodation / Set on larger plot with good sized rear garden / Parking for several vehicles / Ideal for investors looking to add value £200,000	Three Bedroom Detached House / Character Property Over 200 Years Old / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Large Well Maintained & Attractive Rear Garden £190,000	Three Bedroom Detached House / Private Cul-De-Sac / Detached Garage / Quiet Green Area To Front / Quiet Green Area To Front / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Offers in Excess of £185,000	Three Bedroom Detached House / Substantial Plot With Large Rear Garden / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Extended Breakfast Kitchen / Family Bathroom Plus Useful Downstairs Shower £184,950	Modern three bedroom semi-detached house / Off road parking for three vehicles / large conservatory to rear / Cul-de-sac location £180,000
<b>Thistle Drive</b> HUNTINGTON	<b>Westbourne Avenue</b> CHESLYN HAY	<b>St Anthonys Close</b> RUGELEY	<b>Grouse Way</b> HEATH HAYES	<b>Richardson Way</b> RUGELEY	<b>Cannock Road</b> HEATH HAYES
					
Three Bedroom End Terrace House / Quiet Cul-De-Sac With A Green To Front / Modern Breakfast Kitchen / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Victorian Style Conservatory £175,000	Three Bedroom Semi Detached Dormer Style Property / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Victorian Conservatory / Private Rear Garden - Not Overlooked £175,000	Extended three bedroom semi detached house / Sought after cul-de-sac location / Previous garage turned into extended kitchen & dining area / Private south facing rear garden £170,000	Three Bedroom Semi Detached House / Spacious Lounge-Diner / Modern Breakfast Kitchen / En-Suite To Master Bedroom / Private Rear Garden / Driveway For Three Vehicles. Offers in Excess of £170,000	Four Bedroom Mid Terrace Town House / Set Over Three Floors / Victorian Conservatory / Private Rear Garden / Off road Parking / Modern Fitted Kitchen & Bathrooms £165,000	Three bedroom semi detached house / Complete rewiring in last five years / Good sized long drive to front / Plenty of off-road parking / Adjoining garage / Front & rear gardens £160,000
<b>Barn Way</b> WIMBLEBURY	<b>Burgoyne Street</b> CANNOCK	<b>Ebenezer Street</b> HEDNESFORD	<b>Littleworth Road</b> HEDNESFORD	<b>Lyndhurst Road</b> HEATH HAYES	<b>Wolverhampton Road</b> CANNOCK
					
Three Bedroom Mid Terraced House / Spacious Lounge / Three Double Bedrooms / Modern Fitted Breakfast Kitchen & Bathroom / Private Secluded Rear Garden Offers in the Region Of £159,950	Three Bedroom Semi Detached House / Large Rear Garden With The Potential To Develop Subject To Planning Laws / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation £155,000	Extended Four Bedroom Semi Detached House / Open Plan Breakfast Kitchen / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Modern Bathroom / Dining-Sitting Area With Feature Sky Lights Offers in Excess of £152,500	Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow / Large Plot / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Front And Rear Driveways With Parking For Several Vehicles / Good Sized Private Rear Garden £150,000	Deceptively spacious three bedroom semi detached bungalow / Modern breakfast kitchen / UPVC conservatory / Driveway for several vehicles / Good sized private rear garden Offers in Excess of £150,000	Three Bedroom semi detached House / Good Sized Corner Plot / Set Over Three Floors / Rear Driveway With Off Road Parking / Large Top Floor Master Bedroom Plus Two Further Good Sized Doubles Offers in the Region Of £144,950

Tel: 01543 889410

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# lovett & Co.

estate agents

# ONLY 0.9%\*

## INCLUDING VAT FEE

\* terms and conditions apply

Elizabeth Road  
CANNOCK



Two Bedroom Detached House / NHBC Guarantee / Modern Finish Throughout / Large Open Plan Lounge-Diner / Two Double Bedrooms / Private Rear Garden

£142,500

Progress Grove  
HUNTINGTON



Three bedroom semi detached house / Finished to high standard throughout / Modern fitted kitchen / Good sized lounge diner / Private rear garden / NO ONWARD CHAIN

£140,000

Bond Way  
HEDNESFORD



Two Bedroom Semi Detached House / Modern Breakfast Kitchen & Bathroom / Spacious Lounge / Private Tiered Rear Garden / Driveaway For Two Vehicles

£135,000

Anglesey Street  
HEDNESFORD



Two Bedroom End Terraced House / Stunning Communal Gardens / Exclusive Private Mews Development / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Modern Kitchen & Bathroom

£130,000

Beech Grove  
HUNTINGTON



Three Bedroom Semi-Detached House / Quiet Cul-De-sac Location / Spacious L Shaped Open Plan Lounge-Diner / Good Sized Private Garden / Modern Kitchen With Utility Area

£130,000

Wimblebury Road  
HEATH HAYES



Two Bedroom Mid Terraced House / Modern Galley Style Kitchen / Views Of Open Fields To The Front & Woodland To The Rear / Underfloor Heating

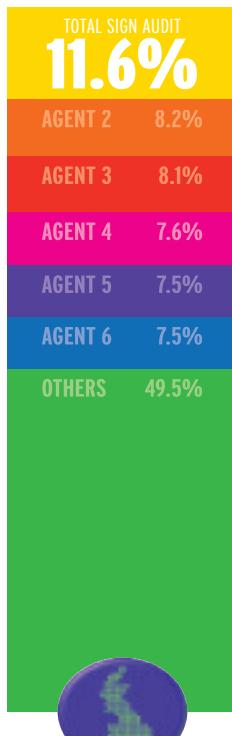
£124,995

CANNOCK  
**LOVETT & CO**

BASED ON A SURVEY COLLECTED  
ON 26-29 OCTOBER 2015



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**for sale**

SIGN ANALYSIS

SUPPLIERS OF INDEPENDENT  
MARKET SHARE REPORTS  
THROUGHOUT ENGLAND AND WALES

Odin Close  
CANNOCK



Two Bedroom Semi Detached House / Good Sized Corner Plot / Spacious Lounge & Open Plan Kitchen-Diner / Two Double Bedrooms / Private Rear Garden - Not Overlooked

£122,500

Cherry Tree Road  
NORTON CANES



Three bedroom semi detached house / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Open plan lounge-diner / Good sized well maintained private rear garden / Driveway providing off road parking

Offers in Excess of £120,000

Littleworth Road  
HEDNESFORD



Two Bedroom Mid Terraced House / Set Over Three Storeys / Spacious Reception Rooms / Private Rear Garden Overlooking Hedgesford Hills

£120,000

Hollingworth Mews  
CANNOCK



Two bedroom terraced house / Sought after modern development / Modern finish throughout with quality fitted kitchen / Open plan lounge diner / Private rear garden

Offers in the Region Of £119,950

The Laurels  
RUGELEY



Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow / Available For The Over 55's / Warden Controlled Development / Spacious Lounge/Diner With Access To Patio Area / Modern kitchen & Shower Room

£115,000

High Street  
NORTON CANES



Three bedroom mid terraced house / Spacious reception rooms / Good sized private rear garden / Gated driveway with ample parking

Offers in Excess of £115,000

Heath Street  
HEDNESFORD



Traditional Two Bedroom End Terraced House / Modern L Shaped Kitchen With Utility Area / Spacious Reception Rooms & Bedrooms / Good Sized Private Garden

£110,000

Sandpiper Close  
HEDNESFORD



Two Bedroom Mid Terraced House / Quiet Cul-De-Sac / Spacious Lounge / Freshly Decorated Throughout / Modern Kitchen-Diner / Off Road Parking / Private Rear Garden

£110,000

Dorney Place  
BRIDGTOWN



Two Bedroom Penthouse Apartment / Finished To A High Standard Throughout / Open Plan Living Area / Modern High Spec Kitchen-Diner / Two Double bedrooms

Offers in the Region Of £109,995

Cemetery Road  
CHADSMOOR



Three bedroom end terrace house / On road parking / Paved front yard / Wrought iron railings borders / Shared access path to side

£109,950

Wimblebury Road  
HEATH HAYES



Three Bedroom End Terrace House / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Semi Rural Location / For Sale By Modern Method Of Auction / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation

Auction Guide Price £90,000

Sandpiper Close  
HEDNESFORD



One Bedroom Ground Floor Maisonette / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Quiet Cul-De-Sac / Double Bedroom / Modern Fitted Kitchen / Allocated Parking /

£80,000

Greig Court  
HEATH HAYES



One Bedroom First Floor Apartment / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Refurbished To A Good Standard / Double Bedroom / Ideal For First Time Buyer's & Investors

Offers in Excess of £80,000

Riverside Court  
CANNOCK



Modern ground floor apartment / Double bedroom & open plan living area / Separate study / Communal garden area / 50% shared ownership

Shared Ownership £45,000

Price Street  
CANNOCK



One Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment / Secure Warden Controlled Property / Communal Laundry Area & Residents Lounge / Lift Rising To All Floors / Off Road Parking

Shared Ownership £38,000

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1 ARNOLDTOWN DRIVE,  
HEDNESFORD  
TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMED  
DETACHED BUNGALOW  
Located In Popular Residential Area  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Refitted kitchen  
◆ Two double bedrooms  
◆ Bathroom  
◆ Gas central heating  
◆ Predominantly double glazed  
◆ Gardens  
◆ Detached garage  
◆ Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers  
◆ EPC rating: D (68)  
£625 pcm



1 FOUNTAIN COURT, TEDDESLEY  
PARK, PENKIRIDGE  
SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION  
Situated On The Popular Rural  
Estate Of Teddesley Park  
◆ Fitted dining kitchen  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Inner hall  
◆ Two double bedrooms  
◆ Family bathroom  
◆ Oil fired central heating  
◆ Fully double glazed  
◆ Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers  
◆ EPC rating: C (69)  
£595 pcm



1A HOLDEN CRESCENT,  
COALPOOL, WALSALL  
ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT  
Fitted dining kitchen  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Kitchen  
◆ Bedroom  
◆ Bathroom  
◆ Economy 7 Heating  
◆ Double glazed  
◆ Communal  
landscaped gardens  
◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers  
◆ EPC rating: C (68)  
£390 pcm



12 SAM BARBER COURT,  
HEATH HAYES  
IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED TWO  
BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT  
Located In Popular Residential Area  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Refitted kitchen  
◆ Two double bedrooms  
◆ Bathroom  
◆ Fully double glazed  
◆ Economy 7 electric heating  
◆ Local facilities  
◆ Allocated parking  
◆ Communal grounds  
◆ Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers  
◆ EPC rating: D (68)  
£465 pcm



17 WOODFORD WAY,  
HEATH HAYES  
WELL EQUIPPED THREE  
BEDROOMED DETACHED HOUSE  
Located In Popular Residential Area  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Dining room  
◆ Kitchen  
◆ Three bedrooms  
◆ Family bathroom  
◆ Fully double glazed  
◆ Allocated parking  
◆ Communal grounds  
◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS  
◆ EPC rating: D (68)  
£660 pcm



70 ST JOHNS ROAD, CANNOCK  
WELL PRESENTED TWO BEDROOMED  
MEWS HOUSE Convenient For Facilities At  
The Town Centre  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Dining room  
◆ Kitchen  
◆ Utility room  
◆ Two double bedrooms  
◆ Family bathroom  
◆ Double glazed  
◆ Gas central heating  
◆ Built-on garage  
◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS  
◆ EPC rating: D (58)  
£575 pcm



66 BROWNHILLS ROAD,  
NORTON CANES  
THREE BEDROOM  
DETACHED HOUSE Convenient For  
Local Facilities  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Cloakroom with  
W.C.  
◆ Dining kitchen  
◆ Three bedrooms  
◆ Bathroom  
◆ Gas central  
heating  
£625 pcm



2 MILL PLACE, TEDDESLEY  
PARK ESTATE, PENKIRIDGE  
WELL EQUIPPED SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION  
Situated On The Picturesque Rural Estate Of Teddesley Park  
◆ Lounge  
◆ Fitted dining  
area  
◆ Inner hall  
◆ Two double bedrooms  
◆ Family bathroom  
◆ Oil fired central heating  
◆ Fully double glazed  
◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS  
◆ EPC rating: C (77)  
£675 pcm



FLAT 19 BEECH TREE COURT,  
BEECH TREE LANE, CANNOCK  
WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT  
Located In Popular Residential Area Convenient For Facilities At  
The Town Centre  
◆ Reception hall  
◆ Open plan lounge/  
kitchen  
◆ Two bedrooms  
◆ Bathroom  
◆ Fully double  
glazed  
◆ Gas central heating  
◆ Security phone  
◆ Intercom  
◆ Allocated parking  
◆ Sorry no DSS,  
smokers or pets  
◆ EPC rating: C (80)  
£495 pcm

PROPERTY

# Pleasant semi is ideal for the young family



**SITUATED** in a popular area, this pleasant semi-detached house in Allens Lane, Pelsall, is ideal for the young family.

It is for sale through Skitts at £155,000. With gas central heating and majority double glazing, reception hall, WC, a dining kitchen with modern attractive fitted units including a breakfast bar, built in oven, hob and extractor fan, a rear lounge with a feature fireplace and sliding patio doors, three bedrooms, two with wardrobes, a bathroom with a white suite and rear garden and off road parking and a garage.

For further details contact Skitts on 01922 478104 or visit [www.skitts.net](http://www.skitts.net)



# Fully refurbished home in a very popular area



**A FULLY** refurbished and extended home in Clarkes Lane, Willenhall, comes with a stunning large kitchen/diner with appliances and a high-spec bathroom.

It is for sale through Paul Dubberley at £159,950 with no chain.

Situated in a very popular residential location, with gas central heating and double glazing it has a porch, reception hall, lounge, open dining area leading to the impressive extended kitchen, downstairs WC, three bedrooms and a modern family bathroom.

The property also has a lawned front garden, enclosed rear garden, a single garage and off-road parking to the rear.

For further information about the property, contact Paul Dubberley by calling 01922 241100 or visiting [pauldubberley.co.uk](http://pauldubberley.co.uk)



PARTNERS -  
T.W. BOOT, FRICS  
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## 22 ST ANNES CLOSE, CHASETOWN



NO CHAIN

IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW  
Located In Much Sought After Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ All windows double glazed
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Utility room
- ◆ Integral garage
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

£239,950 FREEHOLD

## 3 CORNWALL ROAD, HEDNESFORD



NO CHAIN

WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In Popular Residential Area Of The Town Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre  
◆ Lounge with sitting area

- ◆ Lounge with sitting area
- ◆ Easy to maintain gardens
- ◆ UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Wet room shower room
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ Garage
- ◆ EPC rating D (60)

£199,950 FREEHOLD

## 174 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY



NEW PRICE

NO CHAIN

DETACHED HOUSE BUILT IN THE POPULAR INTER WAR PERIOD  
OFFERING THREE BEDROOMS  
Occupying Corner Plot Gardens In An Established Residential Area Of This Much Sought After South Staffordshire Village

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Lounge/dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Store room
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ and predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (70)

£249,950 FREEHOLD

## 11 LANGDALE GREEN, CANNOCK



AN IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOMED MID MEWS HOUSE  
Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre  
◆ Enclosed porch

- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Refitted kitchen
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ EPC rating D (54)

£123,495 FREEHOLD

## ON THE MOVE IN 2016

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## 85 JOHNSON ROAD, CANNOCK



THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE  
◆ Lounge

- ◆ Possible off road parking
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Utility room
- ◆ Solid fuel central heating
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Bathroom and separate WC
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

£99,950 FREEHOLD

## HIGHFIELDS GARDENS

High Mount Street, Hednesford, WS12 4BN (With access between 10 and 17)

**The Open Plot 17**

**PHASE III OF WELL EQUIPPED TWO AND FOUR BEDROOMED HOMES**  
Being built as part of a private owner-occupier development of 22 dwellings

- ◆ Well Equipped Four Bedroomed Mews House
  - ◆ Reception Hall
  - ◆ Cloakroom
  - ◆ Lounge
  - ◆ Breakfast Kitchen
  - ◆ Three First Floor Bedrooms
  - ◆ Family Bathroom and En-Suite Shower Room
  - ◆ Second Floor Bedroom with En-Suite and Dressing Room
  - ◆ Private Garden at Rear
  - ◆ Garage
  - ◆ Gas Fired Central Heating
  - ◆ Fully Double Glazed

**Well Equipped Four Bedroom Mews House**  
PRICE: £229,950 FREEHOLD  
EPC Rating D (61)  
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## NANT Y DERW, TREGYNON, POWYS



NEW PRICE

£275,000 FREEHOLD

## 31 BEECH TREE LANE, CANNOCK



EXTENDED THREE BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In Much Sought After Residential Area of the Town  
◆ Entrance lobby

- ◆ Built on garage
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen
- ◆ Utility room
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ Well stocked gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

£235,000 FREEHOLD

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- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen
- ◆ Cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite shower room
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Single garage
- ◆ EPC rating: C (79)

£249,995 FREEHOLD

## 40 OLD PENKRDGE ROAD, CANNOCK



£645,000 FREEHOLD

CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED, IMPROVED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE WITH FLEXIBLE ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING SELF CONTAINED FLAT SUITABLE FOR EXTENDED FAMILY OCCUPYING MATURE WELL STOCKED GARDENS IN MUCH Sought After Residential Area Adjoining Cannock Park To The Rear

- ◆ Two reception rooms
- ◆ Self contained flat
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen (currently let on AST)
- ◆ Games/hobby/play room
- ◆ Five bedrooms
- ◆ Double integral garage
- ◆ Two bathrooms
- ◆ Gas central heating and double glazing
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ EPC rating D (66)

## 15 VIEWFIELD AVENUE, HEDNESFORD



NO CHAIN

TWO BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac  
◆ Lounge

- ◆ Detached garage
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

£145,000 FREEHOLD

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**THE LAURELS  
RUGELEY**

A well presented two bedroomed mid-terrace bungalow in a sheltered housing complex. Accommodation comprises Entrance Porch, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Shower Room. Communal Parking and Communal Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING - D

**£110,000**

**NO CHAIN**

**LEASOWE ROAD  
BRERETON**

A well presented mid-terrace property within walking distance to local amenities. Gas centrally heated and double-glazed. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, Downstairs W.C. Lounge and Dining Kitchen. Landing with Three Bedrommed and Family Bathroom. Off road parking and garden to rear. EPC RATING - C

**£119,950**

**NEW**

**WINDSOR CLOSE  
RUGELEY**

Modern town house offered with no upward chain. Gas Central Heating and UPVC double-glazing. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Inner Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Kitchen, First Floor Landing, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garden to front and rear. Two allocated parking spaces. EPC RATING - C

**£124,995**

**NEW**

**OAKENHURST AVENUE  
HAWKSYARD**

A very well presented modern semi-detached property. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double-Glazing. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Kitchen, Lounge with French Doors to rear garden. First Floor Landing, Two good size Bedrooms, Bathroom. Garden to front and rear. Allocated Parking. EPC RATING - C

**£133,500**

**NEW**

**FOXGLOVE CLOSE  
ETCHINGHILL**

A three bedroomed semi-detached property with no UPWARD chain. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double-Glazing. Entrance Porch, Lounge, Kitchen, First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Garden to Front and Rear. Off Road Parking for several vehicles. EPC RATING - E

**£149,500**

**ST ANTHONYS CLOSE  
RUGELEY**

A well presented three bedroomed semi-detached house in a quiet cul-de-sac location close to the town centre. Gas central heating, cavity wall insulation and UPVC double glazing. Entrance Porch, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Landing, Three bedrooms and Family Bathroom. Garage with Block Paved Driveway. Gardens to Front and Rear. EPC rating D

**£157,950**

**NEW**

**MAVESYN CLOSE  
HILL RIDGE**

A spacious detached bungalow in this popular village location. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Garden Room, Three Bedrooms, Shower Room, Ample off-road parking leading to Single Garage. Enclosed garden to rear. EPC RATING - D

**£225,000**

**NEW**

**PRIORY AVENUE, HAWKSYARD**

A four bedroomed detached family home situated on a popular modern housing development. Gas Central Heating and UPVC double-glazing. Entrance Porch, Lounge, Family Room, Breakfast Kitchen, WC, Landing, Master Bedroom with En-suite, Three Further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Double Garage and Off Road Parking. Gardens to Front and Rear. EPC Rating - C

**£230,000**

**NEW**

**THORN CLOSE  
RUGELEY**

A beautifully presented four bedroomed detached family home in a quiet cul-de-sac location. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double-Glazing. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility, First floor landing, Master Bedroom, En-suite, Three further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Garage and Off Road Parking. Garden to front and rear. EPC RATING - D

**£235,000**

**NEW**

**BISHOPS GRANGE  
RUGELEY**

A four bedroomed detached family home in popular location. Gas Central Heating and UPVC double-glazing. Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Study, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory. First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom, En-Suite, Three further Bedrooms and Family Bathroom. Single Garage with Ample Parking. Large Garden to Rear. EPC RATING - D

**£275,000**

**TALBOT STREET, RUGELEY**

Traditional, spacious family home with through hallway. Dining Kitchen, Guest Cloakroom, Living Room, Family Room, Dining Kitchen, four double Bedrooms with En-suite to Master and Family Bathroom. There is a double detached garage with Pool Room and Bar Area above. Ample off road parking and large mature gardens. EPC RATING - D

**£360,000**

**NEW**

**THE CURLEW  
ARMITAGE ROAD**

SHOW HOME being offered for sale with immediate possession. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge and Fitted Kitchen. First Floor Landing having Three Bedrooms with Guest Ensuite and Family Bathroom. Second Floor Landing with two Further Bedrooms and Ensuite to Master Bedroom. Gardens to front and rear. SINGLE GARAGE.

**£249,950**

**JONES LANE  
SLITTING MILL**

A beautifully presented detached in non-estate location. Entrance Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Bespoke Kitchen, Utility Room, Downstairs Shower Room and Reception Room. Landing, Four Bedrooms, one having an en-suite, plus a Family Bathroom. Large driveway with mature frontage. Established enclosed rear garden. EPC RATING - D

**£399,950**

**NO CHAIN**

**CHURCH LANE, ETCHINGHILL**

Large detached bungalow offering flexible accommodation set on a large plot there are delightful gardens to all sides with the added advantage of a twin garage with secure ample off-road parking plus a secondary driveway with parking for a caravan/boat. EPC RATING - D

**£399,995**



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## Modern maisonette ready for new owners

IDEAL for a first-time buyer or investor, this well-presented modern one-bedroomed maisonette, 18 Signal Grove, Walsall, is for sale through Redstones at offers over £55,000 with no chain.

With double glazing and electric heating it has a reception hall with stairs off, open plan lounge/fitted kitchen with an electric cooker point, white units, worktops, splash-back tiling and plumbing and appliance space and an extractor fan, a double bedroom with built-in wardrobes, a landing with storage, a family bathroom with a Champagne coloured suite, communal gardens and an allocated parking space.

For further information about the property, contact Redstones on 01922 235350 or visit [www.redstones.co.uk](http://www.redstones.co.uk)



# Six-bedroomed extended detached set in 1.5 acres



THIS six-bedroomed detached house in 1.5 acres in Radmore Lane, Abbotts Bromley, is an extended and deceptively spacious home that has been thoughtfully laid out.

In a tranquil and secluded setting, yet only minutes from the heart of this very desirable village, and having 360-degree rural views, it is for sale through Webbs at £650,000.

With wrought iron electric secure gates with intercom access, it has a sweeping drive, a through hallway with a tiled flooring, a shower/wet room, a lounge with a bay window and a feature fireplace with an open solid fuel fire, a dining/family room with French doors to the garden, a snug/second lounge with a feature fireplace with a wood burner, a utility room, breakfast kitchen with a range oven, extractor hood and tiled flooring, master bedroom en-suite, five further bedrooms, a spacious bathroom, rear garden and paddock. Call Webbs on 01543 468846 or visit [www.webbssestateagents.co.uk](http://www.webbssestateagents.co.uk)



## Part-exchange promotion

# Three-storey property has original features

HOUSE-HUNTERS struggling to sell their home, or keen to avoid the hassle of a property chain, are being invited to find out how they can part exchange for a new home at Taylor Wimpey's Burntwood Manor development.

The housebuilder is holding a part exchange weekend at the site this weekend, when would-be movers can find out about the incentive which could see them offload their current property 'in an instant'.

Under the scheme, customers choosing from the selection of two, three and four-bedroom homes will receive an agreed offer price for their existing house, based on the average of

independent professional valuations. With the housebuilder as their guaranteed cash buyer – and no danger of the property chain breaking – part exchange purchasers can relax until their new home at Burntwood Manor is ready. An independent financial adviser will also be on hand.

Elaine Taylor, regional sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey, said: "Part exchange really does take all the hassle out of selling an existing property. Buyers can relax in their old place until their new home at Burntwood Manor is ready.

"What's more, by exchanging their old place for a low-maintenance new-

build home, customers can look forward to making the most of their leisure time, even after they move, rather than having to spend it tackling stressful and expensive DIY projects."

The part exchange weekend at Burntwood Manor will be held on Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm.

The development, located off Milestone Way, Burntwood, is open Thursday to Monday between 11am and 5pm. Property-hunters can also call the sales executive on 07341 071245.

Information about other Taylor Wimpey developments is available by calling 0121 703 3400 or by visiting [www.taylorwimpey.co.uk](http://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk)

A DETACHED three-storey period property in Ashtree Road, Pelsall, has been sympathetically refurbished to a high standard.

Having a detached double garage, off-road parking and many original features, it is for sale through Goodchilds at offers in excess of £190,000.

It has a walled front garden, entrance porch, front sitting room with a Victorian fireplace and solid oak flooring and stairs to the first floor. The family room has a brick fireplace with a log burner and a slate hearth and oak flooring, a re-fitted kitchen with gas hob, an oven, limestone flooring and space for a wood burning stove.

The conservatory has limestone flooring, a self-cleaning roof and contemporary ladder radiator. The bathroom has a double shower cubicle. There are three bedrooms (one en suite).

The rear garden has a delightful courtyard area, lawn and a shed. For further information contact Goodchilds on 01543 226655 or visit [www.goodchilds-uk.com](http://www.goodchilds-uk.com)



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£550,000

An Edwardian detached family property with six bedrooms and a detached annexe set within its own generous sized grounds.

EPCE

Bentons Lane, Great Wyrley



£290,000

Dixons are pleased to offer for sale this well presented five bedroom, traditional bay fronted detached property with two storey extension.

EPCE

Canterbury Way, Heath Hayes



£225,000

An immaculate three/four bedroom detached property occupying a corner plot position and located within a cul-de-sac.

EPCC

Purcell Close, Heath Hayes



£210,000

Immaculate four bedroom property occupying a corner plot position. Comprises lounge and fitted kitchen/diner with integral appliances.

INSTRUCTION

Pye Green Road, Cannock



£200,000

Viewing is highly recommended on this much improved traditional four bedroom extended semi-detached property.

INSTRUCTION

Railway View, Hednesford



£200,000

This four bedroom modern, double fronted three storey detached property is being sold with vacant possession.

EPCC

Princess Street, Chadsmoor



£125,000

Viewing is recommended on this extended, three bedroom traditional semi detached property being sold with vacant possession.

EPCE

Hollingworth Mews, Bridgtown



£120,000

An immaculate and well presented two bedroom modern mid terraced townhouse located within a cul-de-sac.

REDUCED

Huntington Terrace Road, Cannock



£120,000

A well presented, traditional three bedroom semi detached property being sold with no upward chain and set on a generous plot.

INSTRUCTION

Broadway, Hednesford



Offers Over £110,000

Viewing is recommended on this three bedroom semi detached property being sold with vacant possession and located on a generous sized plot.

EPCE

Belt Road, Hednesford



£80,000

A well presented top floor apartment with bedroom, re-fitted kitchen, shower room and new double glazed windows.

INSTRUCTION

Price Street, Cannock

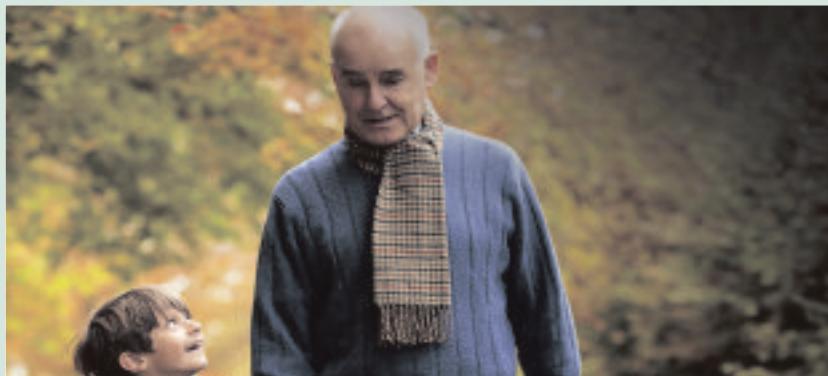


£20,000

A one bedroom first floor apartment for the over 55s at a 20% shared ownership being sold with vacant possession.

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EPB



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**Reduced**

Station Street, Cheslyn Hay

- Edwardian Detached
- Three Storeys
- Six Double Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Kitchen-Diner & Utility Room
- Conservatory

Offers in Excess of £550,000

**NEW**

Cannock Road, Heath Hayes

- Periodic Character Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- L Shaped Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- En-suite

£230,000

**Reduced**

Cowley Green, Hedgesford

- Extended Dorma Bungalow
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £190,000

Walsall Road, Bridgtown

- Traditional Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom

£185,000

Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen-Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £120,000

Cleeton Street, Heath Hayes

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Through Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

£110,000

**NEW**

Trinity Close, Cannock

- One bed flat
- Gas Central Heating
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Communal Gardens

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- LOUNGE
- CONSERVATORY
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- GARAGE

£170,000

**Shelley Close, Armitage,**

- 4 BEDROOM FAMILY HOME
- MUCH IMPROVED THROUGHOUT
- CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION
- CONSERVATORY
- MODERN KITCHEN
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- UTILITY, CLOAKROOM
- EN-SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM

Offers in Excess of £240,000

**SOLD Subject to Contract**

**Lion Street,**

- THREE BEDROOM HOUSE
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- LARGE SINGLE BEDROOM

Offers in Excess of £100,000

**No Chain**

**The Laurels, Rugeley, A two bed-**

- TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW
- KITCHEN
- SHOWER ROOM
- RECEPTION ROOM
- COMMUNAL GARDEN
- CLOSE TO PARKING
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- SCHEME MANAGED

Offers in the Region Of £115,000



**REDUCED**

**Leahall Lane, Brereton,**

- DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- MUCH IMPROVED THROUGHOUT
- FOUR GOOD BEDROOMS
- 2 SITTING AND FAMILY BATHROOM
- LOUNGE, SITTING ROOM/BED 5
- KITCHEN/DINER
- FULL WIDTH CONSERVATORY
- DRIVEWAY

Offers in the Region Of £215,000

**SOLD Subject to Contract**

**Leasowe Road, Rugeley, ENTRANCE**

- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- BATHROOM
- CLOAKROOM/W.C
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN
- TERRACED

£119,950

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- One Bedroom apartment
- Ground Floor
- Kitchen, Lounge
- Show room
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- Modern - NHBC GUARANTEE

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**Firs Farm House, Blithbury, Rugeley**

- 5 BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- SITTING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- CENTRAL HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- DETACHED

Offers in the Region Of £595,000

**SOLD Subject to Contract**

**Shugborough Road,**

- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
- I NEED OF MODERNISATION
- 3 BEDROOM
- 2 RECEPTIONS
- 1 BATHROOM
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- GARAGE

Offers in the Region Of £125,000

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- L- SHAPED PLOT OF LAND
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- KITCHEN, UTILITY, LOUNGE
- LOUNGE

Offers in the Region Of £200,000

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- Lounge, Dining room

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## Walsall Road, Great Wyrley O.O £275,000



This exceptionally spacious, four bedroom, two storey bungalow/family home in the popular area of Great Wyrley. This property has a great layout and generous accommodation throughout. To the rear there is a patio area and lawn area, further on there is secure gate with additional parking. Energy Rating: D.

## Brooklands Avenue, Great Wyrley £160,000



This rather spacious and well presented three bedroom Semi Detached Dormer Bungalow in Great Wyrley. Property comprises of entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen diner with pantry and family bathroom. To the front there is a drive way and detached garage. To the rear there is a paved patio area and a lawn area.

## Forge Close, Churchbridge £154,950



Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market for sale this immaculately presented, three bedroom mid-terrace house which is set over three floors and is situated in an ideal location for commuters as it is easy access to the m6 toll and Cannock town. EPC Rating: D

## Dorney Place, Bridgetown O.O £105,000



Connells Estate Agents are delighted to present for sale this modern two bedroom upper floor, luxury apartment in Bridgetown offering good access onto the A5 and the M6 Toll and has it's very own parking space. Energy rating: B.

## Hussey Road, Norton Canes £185,000



This large four bedroom link-detached property in the popular area of Norton Canes. Internally, the property briefly comprises of entrance hall, family lounge, kitchen/diner with pantry cupboard and converted downstairs bedroom and downstairs wet room. The rear has a patio area and fenced lawn area.

## Sycamore Green, Huntington O.O £155,000



Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market this four bedroom semi-detached property located in Cannock which briefly comprises of entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, conservatory, kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom, front and rear garden and double glazing (Where specified). Energy rating: C.

## Huntington Terrace Road, Cannock £125,000



This attractive three bedroom Semi detached house boasts from having flexible living accommodation. The property briefly comprises of entrance hall, modern fitted kitchen, additional utility room, significantly large lounge diner and conservatory, three bedrooms and a modern fitted bathroom. Energy rating: E.

## Bettys Lane, Norton Canes £98,000



Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market this two bedroom townhouse flat which briefly comprises of entrance porch, entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, front garden and double glazing (where specified). Energy rating: D.

## Wolgarston Way, Penkridge £165,000



This three bedroom semi detached property with garage and off road parking in the beautiful market town; Penkridge. Briefly comprising of an entrance hall, lounge overlooking the rear garden, kitchen / diner, three bedrooms, family bathroom, both front and rear gardens. Energy rating: E.

## Alnwick Close, Heath Hayes £155,000



Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market for sale this immaculately presented three bedroom semi-detached property in a cul-de-sac location in the popular area of Heath Hayes, near to some of Cannock's most renowned schools. Energy rating: C.

## Fairoaks Drive, Great Wyrley £125,000



Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market for sale this deceptively spacious three bedroom mid-terrace property in Great Wyrley and is within the catchment area to Landywood Primary School. Well presented with a modern kitchen this property is a must view. Energy Rating: D

## Albert Court, Bridgetown £90,000



Connells Estate Agents are delighted to present for sale this FREEHOLD modern two bedroom upper floor, apartment in Bridgetown offering good access onto the A5 and the M6 Toll and has it's very own parking space. Energy rating: B.

## Hednesford



**Heather Valley, Hednesford** Offers Over £450,000

Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market for sale this elegant, five bedroom detached family home. Commanding an impressive position, the property boasts flexible living accommodation and is set over two floors. The first floor entrance level and lower ground level both provide generous sleeping arrangements as well as multiple bathrooms and en-suites. Situated in a modern quiet cul-de-sac this property is a short distance away from the desirable Cannock Chase, Hednesford train station and Kingsmead College. On the first floor the property briefly comprises of entrance upper hallway, lounge, dining room, modern fitted kitchen, utility room, two bedrooms with one benefiting from having an en-suite and family bathroom, you then descent to the lower floor where you will find; two double bedrooms with one benefiting from having large fitted wardrobes and an en-suite, large shower room, second lounge / fifth bedroom, with french doors out on to the patio terrace. Externally, to the front the property provides a block paved driveway for multiple cars as well as a larger than average garage. To the rear there is a beautifully designed garden amongst a selection of shrubs and separate patio area. Energy Rating: D.

## Great Wyrley



**Bentons Lane, Great Wyrley** £290,000

This family friendly home with great entertaining space and generous accommodation throughout hosts an impressive five bedrooms and is detached so it really is a must view to fully appreciate not only the space, but the period features also. The property briefly comprises of entrance to a porch, grand reception hall, family lounge, an additional sitting area, conservatory, fitted kitchen and separate dining area, utility with access to the garage. Upstairs there are five bedrooms and this property has both a family bathroom and a family shower room all on the first floor!

## Penkridge



**Athelstan Close, Penkridge** £185,000

A well presented semi detached family home located within the popular market town of Penkridge. The accommodation in brief comprises entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner, utility room, conservatory and another reception room. On the first floor are three bedrooms and a shower room. The property benefits from gas central heating, Upvc double glazing, block paved driveway for multiple cars and an enclosed large rear garden. Energy Rating: D.

## REDUCED



**Deavall Way, Heath Hayes** Offers over £180,000

Connells Estate Agents are pleased to market for sale this three bedroom detached Family Home located in one of Cannock's best areas and surrounded by some of the better schools such as Five Ways and Gorsemoor Primary. Internally you enter through a front door into the hallway which has doors leading to the kitchen, kitchen diner and what is now the playroom/study but this used to be the integral garage. Upstairs you have a landing leading to three bedrooms in total, the master having an en-suite and a family bathroom. Externally, to the front the property provides a tarmac driveway and a lawn area, there is also a patio path to the side of the detached property giving you access to the rear garden. To the rear you will find a patio area and a gated lawn area which is of a good size. Energy Rating: awaited.

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## Heath Hayes



**Grouse Way, Heath Hayes** O/O £170,000

This exceptional and immaculately presented three bedroom semi-detached property Heath Hayes comprises of entrance hall, family lounge, modern fitted kitchen, downstairs W/C, three bedrooms with the master having en-suite. To the side of the property there is a driveway and a garage. Energy rating: C.

## REDUCED



**Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes** £175,000

This exceptional three bedroom link detached property in Heath Hayes briefly comprises of entrance porch, family lounge, kitchen/diner, three bedrooms with the master having fitted wardrobes and a recently fitted modern en-suite. To the front a driveway provides parking. Energy rating: E

## Cannock



**Johnson Road, Cannock** £120,000

Connells are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached property located in Cannock which briefly comprises of entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking, rear garden and double glazing (where specified). Energy rating: E.

## Hednesford



**Farm Court, Hednesford** 95,000

Connells are marketing this one bed roomed over 55's apartment comprising of lounge, kitchen, bedroom, wet room, double glazing and gas central heating (where specified), allocated parking, gardens, drying area, communal lounge area and guest bedroom at small charge. Energy rating: B.

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## Trip of lifetime with Vauxhall

**Wolverhampton motorists Nick and Dawn Bohannan, recently completed the road trip of a lifetime in a new Vauxhall Cascada Elite.**

Purchased from local Vauxhall retailer, Evans Halshaw, Wolverhampton the Cascada Elite CDTI is the first Vauxhall the Bohannans have ever owned.

Finished in limited edition white, with full leather interior, and European maps on the built-in Sat Nav, the Cascada was designed with the help of the team at the dealership, so the Bohannans could experience the holiday of their dreams.

The couple travelled all the way from their home in Penn, down to Portsm-

mouth then chased the sun further still all the way to Provence in the South of France. On the way they stopped off at beautiful attractions such as the Loire Valley, and even followed in the tyre

treads of champions in a visit to Monaco and the famous Grand Prix track.

Ben Vale, dealer principal at Evans Halshaw Vauxhall, Wolverhampton, said: "It's lovely that we were able to help Nick and Dawn fulfil their dream of a road trip holiday. I was confident that the Cascada would do them proud, so when they dropped in to tell us how fantastic their trip had been it was really heart-warming."

"It's a fantastic car and Nick and Dawn are a great example of how chatting through everything you want from a car with your sales leader can ensure we make the best recommendations for you."

"We wish them all the best on their next trip!"

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# Boy racer favourite grows up just a bit

By John Griffiths

**It was like being reunited with an old friend – Subaru's sporting flagship and favourite of a generation of rally drivers is back.**

But the latest WRX STi is a different car to its predecessors: still the same extraordinary performance and handling but with a bigger cabin equipped to premium car standards.

At a fiver under £29,000, it's a combination which make it a serious competitor in the market place as well as on the rally stages.

It tackles the 0 to 62mph sprint in 5.2 seconds and is capable of almost 160mph: but with its rally-honed four wheel drive system adding traction and stability through the corners it's real world performance where the car shines.

And, as proof of the pudding, a standard production version of the car smashed the lap record for four wheelers on the twisty Isle of Man TT circuit. In the hands of British rally ace Mark Higgins, it completed the 37.75 miles in 19 minutes 15.9 seconds, at an average speed of 117.51mph – breaking the record held by its predecessor, the last generation WRX, by more than 40 seconds.

The power comes from a turbocharged 2.5 litre version of Subaru's signature 'boxer', the distinctive sounding four cylinder horizontally opposed engine which produces 300PS and 407Nm of torque.

That's the same as the previous generation, although competition examples were often 'chipped' to raise the output even more. But the new engine and turbo have also been reworked to produce much quicker 'in gear' acceleration (for overtakes and between corners), typically in the 2,000 to 4,000rpm bracket.

There's also the iS-Drive system, which sets the car's responses to one of three modes, from best fuel efficiency to 'Sport Sharp' where the engine's full potential is unleashed.

The WRX disappeared from the British scene a few years ago, largely because of exchange rates between the pound and the Japanese Yen during the recession.

Now it's back, still with the trademark bonnet air scoop and big rear wing, but in many ways significantly different.

The starting point is all-new architecture built using a much higher percentage of high tensile steel, with reinforcements at strategic points, so that it's an amazing 140 per cent stiffer than its predecessor. That benefits suspension and steering response, while also making the car stronger in the event of an accident.

There's a new hydraulic steering system, too, with more driver 'feel' and it's high geared for a sharp and very precise turn-in to corners. With the new short-throw, six speed gearbox it does feel like being in the driving seat of a racing car if it weren't for the fact that you're in superb sports seats, finished in alcantara with leather side bolsters, with dual zone climate control and an upmarket stereo system.

The Subaru's all surface cornering ability is due in no small part to its sophisticated all wheel drive system, which has a highly technical centre differential. The default position is a straight 50/50 power distribution between front and rear wheels, but if either start to slip a higher percentage torque is transferred to those with more grip. There's also a torque vectoring system, reducing power to outside wheels under hard cornering to the reduce the risk of over or under steer.

This system also has a three mode setting, for slippery conditions through to allowing more power to the rear wheels, for greater agility. Multi-mode vehicle dynamic control and traction systems are standard equipment.

Over poorer surfaces, you are still aware that the WRX is a high performance car, but its new suspension system has been tuned and damped to provide a more supple, civilised ride without sacrificing dynamic ability. The car also gets more stopping power with larger, 17-inch ventilated disc brakes all round, with a braking system from Brembo.

In redesigning the WRX, Subaru not only created more cabin space front and rear but also moved the A-pillars and lowered the dash, to give the driver a wider field of vision.

The cabin is now a little wider, with room for five adults, a 460-litre boot and lots of storage spaces. The driver gets clear instruments and with a full colour information screen between the speedo and rev counter. Positioned centre top on the dashboard is another colour display screen, unique to the WRX. For the sporting driver or competitor, you can monitor such things as boost pressure or the AWD system, as well as more mundane things such as the time.

It's a sporting saloon in every sense of the word, better equipped and more comfortable while undercutting rivals.

As with any such car, it isn't bargain basement when it comes to running costs. The official fuel average is 27.2mpg with a CO2 rating of 242g/km.

It is grown and matured, no longer the boy racer's car (an insurance rating of 40E would see that) it's now more of a value for money executive express for the real enthusiast. But don't be surprised if quite a few turn up in rallies and competitions, too.



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# Baleno is hoping to make mark in sector

By Ed Wiseman

Suzuki's renaissance in the UK is gathering pace thanks to a new Vitara and some clever technology. We try an early version of the brand-new Baleno for size.

The Baleno is a new car. There was briefly another Suzuki called Baleno in the Nineties but it was a cheap saloon that didn't sell or drive particularly well. Suzuki hopes that this latest car to bear the Baleno name will perform considerably better in both respects.

Suzuki wants to expand its efforts in the UK market. Historically they've been very good at making characterful little 4x4s like the Jimny (the current generation having been produced since 1998) and perky warm hatches like the Swift Sport. The Swift accounts for a huge amount of its UK sales, but is definitely a compact car. The Baleno is bigger than the Swift, plonking the lesser-known model in a very competitive market sector.

Visually, the Baleno is very ordinary-looking hatchback, with few distinctive features on the outside. You can order it with a snazzy paint job which changes colour depending on ambient lighting conditions but, assuming you're one of the 99 per cent of people who don't tick that box, it's actually very boring to look at. What's more, it probably won't age well – it already looks a bit dated, and it isn't even for sale yet.

The same is true of the interior. There's a large touch-screen display with satnav, DAB and reversing camera capabilities, but apart from that the inside of the Baleno looks like a car from several years ago. The plastics are slightly harsh and the layout has an old-fashioned Japanese character to it – not ugly, but not interesting either.

Buying a Suzuki is a statement. It means that you cherish reliability and practicality over a 'desirable' badge. Suzuki has a cult following, primarily around the Swift Sport and the funky little off-roader, the Jimny. But apart from that, the manufacturer receives little recognition in the UK.

Legroom for passengers is good in both the front and the rear. There's around 7cm more legroom in total than the Swift, and it's possible to seat five adults in only slightly compromised comfort. With four grown men in it, the Baleno feels like a much larger car than it is.

## Comfortable

In the front, a lack of storage space is evident. The glovebox is pint-sized and the oddment box in the centre console can barely accommodate a large mobile phone. Door bins are reasonable but won't hold large water bottles. The seats are comfortable for long periods of time and all the controls are in the right place.

In the rear, the slightly simplistic design continues. Bottom-spec cars will have wind-up windows in the rear, and when the windows are fully wound down there's an incredibly intrusive buffeting noise and reverberation. Split-folding rear seats make the potential load space enormous, and even with the seats in place the boot is still a class-leading 355 litres – larger than the Focus and i20.

We drove the pre-production model, which was already good, but we've been promised continuing development before it's unleashed on the UK's roads. Steering is quite responsive and the general handling characteristics feel like those of a more expensive car.

The 1.0-litre BoosterJet engine produces a remarkable amount of power at low revs (roughly 90 per cent of its torque at just 1,500rpm) and the result is a feisty feel. It won't win races or set the heart racing like a hot hatch, but Suzuki has managed to squeeze 110bhp out of a tiny displacement.

You can opt for a very ordinary five-speed manual, or an excellent six-speed automatic with flappy paddles. There's also a 1.2-litre mild hybrid, which uses a bit of electric power in conjunction with a conventional engine. While this does bring the CO<sub>2</sub>/km figure down below 100, it's not particularly engaging to drive. It's also too expensive, and even Suzuki expect it to account for just 10 per cent of sales. The 1.0 with the auto box is the clear winner here.

Exact pricing hasn't been released yet, but the ballpark figures are £12,000 for the entry-level model and £14,000 for the top-spec. These are liable to change but £12,000 makes it a reasonable choice for a bargain motor and £14,000 for the more upmarket one makes it cheaper than similarly-equipped competitors. Some of the basic touches, like an old-fashioned mechanical handbrake, are actually quite attractive to a lot of buyers.

The Baleno is such an ordinary car at first glance that it's hard to pick out a specific target beyond people who already know (and love) Suzuki cars. But this new 1.0 BoosterJet engine coupled to the six-speed automatic gearbox makes for a fun driving experience, and there's a lot of room in there for humans and their possessions. The Baleno will certainly attract Suzuki fans who have outgrown the Swift, and inevitably some newcomers to the brand will be drawn in by this practical, no-nonsense little run-around.

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2008 58	SWIFT 1.5 GLX 3-Dr alloy wheels rear spoiler electric windows stunner 5 stamps in service book	£3,499
2010 60	GRAND VITARA 1.6 VTi SZ4 3-Dr 17" alloys aircon roof rails with history only 45780 miles	£7,999
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2004 04	COROLLA TSPRIT 1.6 VTi 5-Dr alloys aircon sunroof excellent condition only 54784 miles	£2,999
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2011 61	AGILA 1.2 SE 5-Dr alloy wheels aircon needs viewing exceptional only 33183 miles with Full history	£5,999
2013 13	CORSA 1.4 SE 5-Dr half leather trim alloy wheels aircon look only 30916 miles	£6,999
2008 58	CORSA 1.2 BREEZE PLUS 5-Dr alloy wheels aircon Glass Panoramic roof low insurance and RFL stunner	£3,999
2008 08	CORSA 1.4 DESIGN 5-Dr alloy wheels aircon low insurance group look only 62321 miles	£3,999
2010 60	MERIVA EXCLUSIVE 1.3CDTi DIESEL 5-Dr new model aircon electrics pack with history cheap RFL	£5,999
2008 08	MERIVA 1.6 BREEZE 5-Dr alloy wheels aircon privacy glass lots of history stunner	£3,999
2011 11	ASTRA SRI 1.6 ESTATE 5-Dr Alloy wheels aircon rare estate look only 31360 miles	£7,999
2011 11	ASTRA SRI 1.4 5-Dr Alloy wheels aircon great spec look only 58591 miles	£5,999
2009 59	ASTRA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE 5-Dr first of new shape full dealer history aircon electrics windows	£4,999
2007 07	ASTRA 1.4 SXI 5-Dr alloy wheels aircon electrics windows only 65688 miles excellent condition	£3,999
2006 56	ASTRA DESIGN 1.7 CDTi DIESEL 100 5-Dr ESTATE alloy wheels aircon rare estate version	£2,999
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# Dynamic upgrades for updated Infiniti Q50

By James Parker

The new 2016 Infiniti Q50 sports saloon is being launched with a number of performance and dynamic upgrades that deliver a more empowering and rewarding drive experience. The comprehensive updates include next-generation ride and handling technologies and all-new advanced turbocharged V6 powertrains.

Making its debut on an Infiniti is the company's second-generation Direct Adaptive Steering™, comprehensively modified from the ground-breaking first-generation system. The standard steering mode now offers advanced levels of steering feel and feedback – more akin to that of a conventional steering system.

The new Q50 also features Infiniti's Dynamic Digital Suspension (DDS) for the first time, which gives the car an optimal blend of ride comfort and class-leading response and agility.

For those drivers looking for a blend of dynamic settings tailored to their own particular requirements and tastes, the Q50's Drive Mode Selector (DMS) can be augmented with a 'Personal' mode, which permits a bespoke mix of engine, suspension and steering characteristics.

Five powertrain options are offered with the Infiniti Q50, and for the 2016 model these include an advanced, all-new 3.0-litre V6 twin-turbo gasoline engine with direct injection.

This new 'VR30' engine in Europe is available in only one state of tune: 400 hp – (300 hp also available for Middle East); developed to provide an ideal mix of drivability, efficiency and performance.

The Q50 was developed to showcase Infiniti's daring design, dynamic performance and class-leading technologies within the sports saloon segment.

Now in its third year, Q50 global sales between January and October 2015 reached almost 50,000 cars, representing a 65 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2014.

A range of new and innovative ride and handling technologies deliver on the promise of the Q50's daring design, and install confidence in all driving conditions.

Infiniti Q50 models equipped with the new 3.0-litre V6 twin-turbo engine, or the hybrid powertrain, come available with the second-generation Infiniti Direct Adaptive Steering™, which has undergone significant re-tuning to greatly enhance steering feel and feedback.

## Consultation

The changes to DAS – the world's first digital steering system – have been made following extensive consultation with existing Q50 customers around the world and over 625,000 miles of testing.

For the new second generation Direct Adaptive Steering, engineers have optimized the control logic to improve feedback from the road.

2.0-litre petrol and 2.2-litre diesel models are equipped with a speed-sensitive hydraulic electronic rack-and-pinion power steering system as standard.

This increases assistance at low speeds and reduces assistance for enhanced feel and response at higher speeds.

2016 Q50 Sport models with 3.0 twin turbo powertrain are upgraded with Dynamic Digital Suspension (DDS) for the first time, which offers enhanced ride comfort with class-leading response and agility.

The shift from a comfort-biased ride to enhanced dynamic response can be made when the driver places the electronically adjustable shock absorbers in either Sport or Sport+ modes (adjusted via the Drive Mode Selector), providing firmer damping control for more agile handling. While in these modes, the suspension is constantly adjusting to provide ideal performance and a flat ride.

The hybrid powertrain is designed to put performance first, while bringing significant benefits for fuel efficiency.

All Q50 powertrains are matched to an advanced seven-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission with manual shift mode and steering column-mounted magnesium paddle shifters.

Adaptive Shift Control enhances gear selection by using a lateral acceleration sensor to detect changes in the road, such as hills and turns.

Sport mode allows the driver to select a more aggressive shift pattern with automatic up- and down-shifting at higher rpm.

The combined effect is for any driver to enjoy quick, smooth shifts and gear choices that are appropriate to both the road and the desired driving style. The new Infiniti Q50 will go on sale in selected markets later this year.



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Locking, PAS



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Seats, 1 Owner, Service History

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2008 08 VW SHARAN TDI 7 Seater, Black, Alloys, Heated Seats, E/Windows, C/locking, etc.....£6995

2005 55 KIA SORENTO CRDI XS Black Over Grey, Great Leather Alloys, Air Con, Heated Seats etc, One Owner, 71,000 miles, Service History.....£5995

2005 05 TOYOTA RAV 4 GRANITE Turbo Diesel, 5-door. Silver, E/Windows, Alloys, E/Sunroof, Air Con, Service History.....£5295

2011 61 FIAT QUBO ACTIVE 1.4 MPV Metallic Blue, One Owner, e/windows, c/locking, PAS.....£4495

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2005 55 SUZUKI JIMNY 3-dr. Silver, Only 60,000 miles, Alloys, C/locking, PAS, E/Windows.....£3495

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2005 05 CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 LX Only 59,000 miles, C/locking, PAS, E/Windows.....£1995

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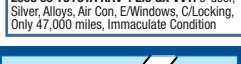


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Seats, 1 Owner, Service History



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Seats, 1 Owner, Service History



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Seats, 1 Owner, Service History



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# Audi's R8 supercar wow factor even better

By Graham Breeze

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How to improve one of the most popular supercars on European roads was the dilemma facing designers at Audi – but somehow they have managed to make the all-new R8 even better.

The V10 supercar is arriving in UK showrooms this month with advanced new Quattro all-wheel-drive, up to 610PS and a breathtaking top speed of 205mph.

This second generation R8 comes in two models, both featuring V10 engines – one with 532bhp, the other with 602bhp. The entry level V10, costs £119,500, while the V10 Plus model starts at £134,500, though the Plus version just tested was packed with extras to take the price up to a staggering £153,350.

When we're talking supercars you clearly need to know how it performs so you won't be disappointed to hear there's 0-62mph in 3.2 seconds, 0-124mph in 9.9 seconds and a 205mph top speed. You also won't be disappointed to hear that it sticks to the road like glue. There could have been no better location to test its handling abilities than the demanding roads of the Cote de l'Azur where the results were as near as it gets to a real-life version of Scalextrix thanks to the quattro all-wheel drive and variable torque control.

Audi has achieved all this because the chassis is stiffer and the four-wheel drive system is smarter, while the engines produce more energy yet burn less fuel despite the 5.2-litre block being unchanged. Other improvements include a stunning virtual cockpit, Audi drive select to allow the individual to choose his or her own performance level, Audi connect for Internet services, and all-round parking assist – a must as the R8 is wider than you would expect and the last thing you want is to scratch the valuable alloy wheels.

Inside the cabin it's as near perfect as it can get. The Audi cockpit is set in a free-standing housing with all the information displayed on a 12.3inch screen and everything controlled from the multifunction steering wheel via a series of well positioned buttons. You control the information and entertainment facilities from the wheel and the drive select system which means you can adjust exhaust noise and adjustable flaps alongside the performance mode selection.

### Technology

Night time driving has been improved with the introduction of optional laser light technology. The standard LED lights are strong enough but the laser system takes things to a new level. The £3,000 additional cost may prove too much for some though.

To improve fuel economy and enhance output, the latest V10 engine gains indirect fuel injection to complement its FSI direct petrol injection, and also features cylinder on demand technology for the first time. In simple terms the system shuts off one of the two cylinder banks by deactivating injection and ignition.

The R8 V10 can return up to 24.8mpg with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 272 grams per kilometre – equivalent values for the R8 V10 plus are 23.0mpg and 287 grams per kilometre. I suspect you'll need to keep your foot off the accelerator to achieve these figures though. The figures represent an improvement in economy of up to 13 per cent compared to previous models.

A new freewheeling or 'coasting' function built into the seven-speed S tronic transmission fitted to both versions also boosts efficiency, while the newly developed quattro drive system transmits the power to the road with even greater adaptability.

Both versions are fitted with 19-inch wheels in exclusive designs as standard, and in the V10 plus these are combined as standard with ceramic brake discs offering even more assured stopping power.

On the outside, the V10 is equipped with an electrically extending spoiler, while the R8 V10 plus gains a large fixed rear wing in carbon sigma, matching the finish of its heated and folding exterior mirrors, sideblades, front spoiler lip and rear diffuser.

To add visual impact to the mid-mounted 10-cylinder engine, both 540PS and 610 PS versions feature an interior LED lighting package which illuminates the glass-covered engine compartment and the footwells.

The test car checked in at £132,715 but if you can afford that you'll certainly be tempted to add a reversing camera, gloss engine trim, laser lights, a storage package, sports exhaust, dynamic steering, magnetic ride, pneumatic seat adjustment, Alcantara headlining, a leather package, cruise control, a Bang & Olufsen sound system and a phone system.

Add delivery charge and road fund licence fee of £1,100 and the price totalled £153,650.

If you want one you'll have to move quickly because enthusiasts have already pre-ordered 300 vehicles and Audi only expects to have a total of 450 for sale in the UK.

# Update is practical, usable and a bargain

By Matt Joy

The UK's best selling plug-in hybrid last year was the Mitsubishi Outlander, but now there's an improved version.

It's a good time for all types of electric cars as diesel is going through some dark days, plus the crucial infrastructure is getting better all the time. No wonder then that the Mitsubishi Outlander is so popular, being one of the more affordable PHEVs (plug-in hybrid electric vehicle) as well as one of the most practical.

Now there's a substantially revised version ready for market with changes to the power train operation and the suspension as well as interior and exterior design. Equipment levels have been given a boost too and crucially the Outlander PHEV remains eligible for the Government's £5,000 grant.

The previous Outlander had all the typical SUV design cues you'd expect, but there was something about its proportions that made it look unusually tall for its length. Clearly that was something taken on by Mitsubishi HQ because the new Outlander is longer than before thanks to redesigned front and rear bumpers. The new design is sharper too, giving the Outlander a more distinctive face and boosting the feeling of quality with revised lights and alloy wheel designs too.

The Outlander is also doing great things for Mitsubishi's image in the UK as it currently dominates the PHEV segment and is helping to bring new buyers into the brand.

The Outlander sits comfortably in the mid-sized SUV segment and is well equipped to offer useful space for passengers and luggage. The high driving position is appealing with a low-set dashboard offering a good view out, with more than sufficient head and legroom. It's also spacious in the back, if not class-leading, while boot space is 463 litres – a little less than some rivals, but this is the flip side of carrying the extra electrical hardware.

## Modes

The underlying hardware of the Outlander PHEV are as before, with electric motors front and rear combining with a 2.0-litre petrol engine to give a variety of hybrid modes. You can use the petrol engine as a range extender or as direct drive to the wheels, and run the batteries to give a power boost or save their output for pure electric mode. One change is the sharpening of the system response at low speeds, cutting the 0-25mph time by 50 per cent.

Mitsubishi has also worked at improving the overall driving experience.

Retuned suspension with stiffer underpinnings are a help, creating a more composed ride, while the handling is safe and secure for a car of this size and shape. But the Outlander PHEV's biggest appeal is the flexibility of its power train, offering sufficiently brisk performance when required alongside super-frugal economy in the right conditions. It's hard not to feel like you're beating the system when you're behind the wheel.

All things considered, it's hard not to see the Outlander PHEV as something of a bargain. It's priced the same as the equivalent diesel version with the government grant included which means you can sneak into the GX3h model for a measly £29,249 and get 18-inch alloys, keyless entry and start, Bluetooth and a decent audio system, with a few extra toys thrown in for this latest model. Go the whole hog for £35,999 and there's the satnav with reversing camera, powered tailgate, radar cruise control and even a heated steering wheel.

If there's a car for the moment then the Outlander PHEV is pretty much it. It's practical, comfortable and usable, making it perfect for family car duties, yet the higher-specification versions feel reasonably luxurious too. But it's the potential for zero emissions running and spectacular fuel consumption over short journeys that makes it such an appealing prospect.

This car summed up in a single word: Clever

If this car was a: new invention it would be rightly lauded as a bargain.

## TESTED

**Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV GX4hs, £35,999  
(after £5,000 UK Government grant)**

**Engine:** 2.0-litre petrol unit plus twin electric motors producing 200bhp and 284lb/ft of torque

**Transmission:** CVT automatic gearbox driving all four wheels

**Performance:** Top speed 106mph, 0-62mph in 11 seconds

**Economy:** 156mpg combined

**Emissions:** 42g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>



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DEPOSIT  
£149.55\*  
PER MONTH**



REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: KIA PICANTO 1.0 '1' 3DR\*

36 monthly payments £129.04	Cash price £7,895.00	Customer deposit £350.00	Kia Deposit Contribution £1,000.00	GfV (Optional final payment) £2,579.75	Total amount payable £8,575.19	APR Representative 4.9%
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Based on 6,000 miles per annum, excess mileage charge is 14.9p per mile for the first 5,000 miles and at twice that rate thereafter.

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# SsangYong Tivoli was a bit of a pleasant surprise

By Ian Donaldson

A smattering of Spanish would have come in handy in deepest Bedfordshire as we tried to tell the SsangYong's sat nav to take us back to base.

Someone had set the system for the land of paella and siestas and instructions came out of the Tivoli's dashboard with a softly spoken southern inflection, which sounded lovely but meant precious little.

But you don't keep a motoring writer from his lunch and the destination was eventually plumbed into the TomTom and away we went – in a car that was proving a bit of a surprise.

Taking us on the mystery tour of an unheralded but handsome part of middle England was the latest model of a car you probably haven't heard of yet – the SsangYong Tivoli.

Built in South Korea by a company known until now for its range of tough but basic machines, many with an off-road potential, the Tivoli marks a serious move towards European respectability, where mere cheapness doesn't always succeed.

A decade or so ago a couple of other Koreans – Hyundai and Kia – began their climb upmarket and have succeeded beyond perhaps even their dreams. Can SsangYong do it too?

The earlier Tivoli versions, arriving mid-2015 made a firm case for a positive answer – 'yes!' – and at prices that start at £12,950 for a front-driver with petrol engine. Which makes it great value rather than a steal; often a sign that makers reckon their cars are now good enough to entice buyers without needing a bargain basement price tag.

SsangYong was right; the first Tivolis were decent enough to drive and very well kitted out for the money.

They also felt better put together (on the inside in particular) than opposition selling for more.

But what about a Tivoli selling for more than £20,000 when you've added metallic paint (£500) and a £400 styling pack with fancy alloys, black roof, spoiler and door mirrors?

That's moving the car deep into the European mainstream, where you'll find a host of smart cars looking for style-savvy buyers.

Well, driving is believing and SsangYong has a winner on its hands, so long as it can persuade you to sit in the car and then take it for a drive.

## Admiration

Should your route take in a deep waterhole and a couple of crazily angled slopes, the admiration factor will ramp up quickly. For here is a car that genuinely surprised in places no sane owner will ever take it.

A winter's drive home on snowy roads is going to be chicken feed for this newest version of the Tivoli. The all-wheel drive system puts all the power through the front wheels until it detects slippage, when the rears are instantly brought into action.

This ought to mean better fuel economy than in a car with all the wheels working all the time.

You can have a six-speed manual gearbox or an automatic unit in your Tivoli 4x4 but both will be powered by the same 1.6 diesel engine that became an option in the 2WD range some months ago.

It produces 113bhp, enough for 107mph top speed with the auto box and the sprint to 62mph in 12.3 seconds (109mph/12.0 seconds for the manual), with the auto 'box hitting emissions and fuel consumption, so that the figures of 156g/km and 47.9mpg average look underwhelming – stick to the DIY gearbox and things improve to 123g/km and 60.1mpg.

Out on proper road surfaces the diesel auto 4x4 Tivoli hums along nicely, allowing you to admire its fit and finish and start to take in the goodies that this top version has on board.

Standard kit on the ELX includes satellite navigation (Spanish is optional!), a superbly clear reversing camera, leather upholstery and heated front seats, climate control, keyless entry and start, auto dipping interior mirror, cruise control and (hurrah), a space saver spare wheel.

The ELX 4x4 auto costs £19,500, a six-speed manual is £1,000 less and the EX 4x4 diesel with a bit less kit is £17,100.

SsangYong thinks 500 people will take a Tivoli 4x4 in 2016. They may be surprised, especially if they can persuade showroom visitors to take a drive.



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For 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty and terms and exclusions visit [www.kia.co.uk](http://www.kia.co.uk). Offer not available with any other offer. Subject to availability on vehicles registered before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

For Motability details and eligibility visit: [www.motability.co.uk](http://www.motability.co.uk)



## Smart ForTwo takes its top off

There's good news for anyone who likes their convertible cars with an added helping of tiny, because Smart has confirmed an open-top ForTwo.

The minuscule 2.69-metre ForTwo Cabrio is destined for showrooms early this year, complete with a triple-layer fabric roof that can be electrically lowered or raised in 12 seconds, at any vehicle speed.

It has a glass rear screen for convenience, while the roof side bars detach

and slot into the tailgate itself, meaning they take up zero boot space.

Black is the standard colour for the soft-top, but a red one can replace it for £115, and a 'compact' wind deflector can be added for £59.

Otherwise, the £13,265 car will share the same specifications and equipment as the hard-top ForTwo.

Engine options include a 70bhp starter and a turbocharged upgrade with 89bhp, the latter of which adds £595.

There are two gearboxes covering manual and twin-clutch automatic (£995).

It keeps the same amazing 6.95-metre

turning circle thanks to thin tyres and a rear-mounted engine, making it more manoeuvrable in town than a London Black Cab.

Passion, Prime and Proxy have been confirmed as the trim level choices, mirroring the hard-top ForTwo range. Luxurious Prime and sporty Proxy add £695 to the base price, moving the design and technology off in slightly different directions.

Premium and Premium Plus packages are also available, for £795 and £1,295 respectively, taking the car's maximum theoretical price to more than £17,500 after options added for paint and safety cell colours.

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<sup>1</sup>Participating Retailers only. £500 Free Fuel offer not available on VIVA, Corsa Sting, Corsa Sting R and Run Out Astra and cannot be used in conjunction with the Vauxhall Scrappage Allowance. £500 Free Fuel will be supplied via pre-pay debit card. Purchase only, cannot be used to withdraw cash. Refer to [www.vauxhall.co.uk/](http://www.vauxhall.co.uk/) for terms and conditions. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 units (purchase only). All other customers are excluded. Offer restricted to eligible selected new vehicles ordered between 27 December 2015 and 11 January 2016 and registered by 31 March 2016. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Correct at time of going to press.



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## KEENAHAN

Peter Martin

May 29, 1947 - December 22, 2015.

Peter, with his Family by his side, passed away peacefully after a long illness, borne with such dignity and humility.

A special Brother and Friend, so very loved by everyone who knew him.

God bless Peter.

Rest in peace.

Peter will be received into St Joseph & Etheldreda RC Church, Rugeley on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 4.30pm.

Requiem Mass on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 12 noon, at St Joseph & St Etheldreda Church, followed by Committal at Stile Cop Cemetery.

Family flowers only donations to Neuro Surgical Department, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham may be sent to

## The co-operative funeralcare

17 Benyon Road, Rugeley, Staffs WS15 1DR  
01569 582515

## KIBBLE

David John

Passed away on Saturday, December 26, 2015, aged 56 years.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Friday, January 15, 2016, at 10am, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Macmillan Cancer Support.

All inquiries c/o

**A.J. Sellman**  
Family Funeral Directors  
29 Church Street,  
Cannock, WS12 1NN  
**01543 502322**

## MCLEAN

Eileen Margaret

In Loving Memory.

Passed away January 3, 2016. A loyal and loving Mother, Wife and Grandmother. You inspired us all with your strength and courage.

We are so proud of you Mum, you are adored and will be remembered always.

Your loving Family Mike, Richie, Adam, Wassana, Henry, and Sasha.

Funeral details will be announced later.

Inquiries to  
AJ SELLMANS  
01543 502322

## MASSEY

Ivan Robert

Passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving Family on Monday, December 21, 2015, aged 67 years.

Ivan was much loved and will be missed dearly by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Friday, January 8, 2016, by arrangement at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley at 2pm, followed by a Service at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel.

Family flowers only.

Donations, if so desired for St Giles Hospice at home and Katharine House Hospice at home.

All inquiries c/o

**A.J. Sellman**  
Family Funeral Directors  
67 Station Street,  
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG  
**01922 410612**

## MALCOLM

Freya  
nee Hall

Sadly, Mom passed away peacefully in the early hours of Christmas Eve, 2015, at the Manor Hospital, Walsall.

A wonderful and generous Mom to David, Christopher and Colin (Deceased), and Wife to John (Deceased), now reunited.

A special Grandmother to Michelle, Philip, Natalie and Paul and also a Great-Grandmother.

A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, January 15, at 10.30am, Burntwood Methodist Church, Cannock Road, Burntwood.

All are welcome, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Friends are welcome.

Mom's home at Richardson Court, Chapel St., Chase Terrace, will host a lunch following the Services.

Family flowers only are requested.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to Age UK.

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## MILOSEVIC

Ilija  
(Mike)

Sadly passed away on December 22, 2015, at New Cross Hospital, surrounded by his loving Family.

A much loved Father, Grandfather and Brother-in-law, who will be sadly missed by all his Family and Friends.

His Funeral Service will take place on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 12.30pm, at St Aidan's Church, Cannock, followed by a Burial at Cannock Cemetery.

Flowers are welcome.

All further inquiries to

**A.J. Sellman**  
Family Funeral Directors  
29 Church Street,  
Cannock, WS12 1NN  
**01543 502322**

## LOMAS

Christine Margaret  
nee Kent

Passed away peacefully, after a short illness, on December 26, 2015, aged 80 years.

Beloved Wife of Joe, treasured Mom of John, Stephen and the late Jennifer, much loved Nan and Great-Nan and Sister of Charles.

Funeral Service to be held at Stafford Crematorium on Monday, January 11, at 11am.

Sweet is the sleep that ends all suffering.

Family flowers only.

Donations to The Acute Stroke Unit, New Cross Hospital c/o:

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EDWARDS  
Patrick  
(Pat)  
09.12.39 - 19.12.15.  
Passed away after a long illness at New Cross Hospital.

Funeral Service at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel, Wolverhampton, on January 20 at 12 noon

Family flowers only, donations to Critical Care c/o A.J. Sellmans.

Will be greatly missed by loving Wife Marion, Daughter Tracy, Son Andrew and Families.

GOULD  
Gwendoline  
Of Cannock, passed away peacefully on December 22, 2015.

Much loved and sadly missed by her Family and Friends, and all who knew her.

The Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at Stafford Crematorium, at 11am.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for the Alzheimer's Society c/o

COLLIS  
Uma Mary  
Passed away on December 28, 2015, aged 93 years.

Will be forever in our hearts and always in our thoughts.

From your loving Son and Daughter Chris, Barbara and Family.

Funeral, Stafford Crematorium, Wednesday, January 13, 10am.

Family flowers only, donations to local Animal Charity via Family members.

DERRY  
Claude Alfred  
Passed away peacefully at The Lodge Nursing Home, on Wednesday, December 23, 2015, aged 84 years.

Claude will be sadly missed by all his Family.

The Funeral Service will take place on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at St Peter's Church, Hednesford, at 1.30pm, followed by Cremation at Stafford Crematorium.

Donations will be accepted by the Family for Cancer Research.

Claude is now resting in our Private Chapel of Repose at HALLIWELL Funeral Service 70 Hednesford Road Heath Hayes WS12 3EA. 01543 459200.

FARAGHER MAGUIRE Family Funeral Directors Brindley House 75 Broadhurst Green Hednesford WS12 3EA. 01543 879866.

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The Chronicle Thursday, January 7, 2016

LEEK

Maureen

(Mo)

Of Cheslyn Hay.

Sadly passed away December 11, in Fuerteventura, aged 57 years.

A much loved Partner to Keith and a very special lady who will be missed by many people.

Her Funeral Service will take place at 10.30am, Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel, on Monday, January 11.

Flowers are welcome, donations if desired for Leukemia Association UK c/o

**A J Sellman**  
Family Funeral Directors  
67 Station Street,  
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG  
01922 410612

NELMES

David Stevenson

Passed away suddenly, December 30, 2015, at Queens Hospital, Burton, aged 66.

He will be very sadly missed by all his loving Family and Friends.

Funeral Service to take place, 12 noon on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at Augustine's Church, Rugeley, followed by Burial at Stile Cop Cemetery.

By request Family flowers only, donations for The R.N.L.I. and Scope may be sent c/o

**The co-operative funeralcare**  
17 Bremont Road, Rugeley,  
Staffs WS15 1DR  
04899 582835

SMITH

Arnold G

November 21, 1934 - December 30, 2015.

You left me beautiful memories, your love is still my guide and though I cannot see you, you are always by my side.

Until we meet again, all my love always your loving Wife Evelyn.

Loving Father to Simon, Richard and Tracy Grandad to Hayley, Laura and Connor.

Funeral Service to take place 12 noon on Monday, January 11, 2016, at Stafford Crematorium.

All welcome after to Lea Hall Club.

Family flowers only, donations for British Heart Foundation may be sent to

**The co-operative funeralcare**  
17 Bremont Road, Rugeley,  
Staffs WS15 1DR  
04899 582835

TAYLOR

Keith

Dad

It broke our hearts to lose you but you did not go alone, part of us went with you, the day God called you home.

For all the love you gave us in happy by gone years, the comfort of your presence, in days of joy and tears.

We bless the years we shared with you, as with Gods peace and rest, Gods garden must be beautiful, for He only takes the best.

Sleep peacefully till we meet again.

I will love and miss you, your brokenhearted Daughter, Michelle and Son-in-Law Carl.

XX

TAYLOR

Keith

No length of time can dim the past, loving memories hold it fast.

Sister Rose, Son-in-Law Keith, Nieces Carol and Paula and Families.

WEBB

Sheila

(nee Bryant)

Passed away peacefully on December 25, 2015, aged 76.

After losing her brave battle against cancer.

Beloved Mum to Neil, Lisa and Kerry, and beloved Mother-in-Law to Simon.

Will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

The Funeral Service is to be held at Stafford Crematorium on January 12, at 1.00pm.

Close Family flowers only.

Any donations will go to Wheelchairs for St. Giles.

WILDING

Winston

Late of Chadsmoor, passed away on January 1, 2016.

Winston will be sadly missed by all his loving Family.

Funeral Service will take place on Monday, January 18, 2016, at 2pm, at St Peter's Church, Hedgesford, followed by Burial in St Peter's Churchyard.

Winston is now resting in a Private Chapel of Repose at HALLIWELL

Funeral Service

70 Hedgesford Road

Heath Hayes

WS12 3EA.

01543 459200.

YOUNG

Dennis Arthur

Of Cannock.

Sadly passed away on Sunday, December 27, 2015, aged 87 years.

Reunited with his beloved Wife Barbara.

Funeral to take place at 11am, Monday, January 18, 2015, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only with donations to the Alzheimer's Society and Midlands Air Ambulance.

Inquiries to FARRAGHER MAGUIRE

Funeral Directors

01543 879866 for details

**acknowledgements**

*Sincere Thanks*

KENNY

Bernard

The Family would like to thank everyone for all their kind messages of sympathy and grateful donations in memory of Bernard.

Special thanks to Father Peter Stonier, Rugeley Health Centre, St Giles Hospice, Katharine House Hospice and Rugeley Co-operative Funeralcare.

For all the love you gave us in happy by gone years, the comfort of your presence, in days of joy and tears.

We bless the years we shared with you, as with Gods peace and rest, Gods garden must be beautiful, for He only takes the best.

Sleep peacefully till we meet again.

I will love and miss you, your brokenhearted Daughter, Michelle and Son-in-Law Carl.

XX

**birthday remembrances**

LEMOND

Sarah

(nee Barrett)

There's something in life I cannot buy, a gift so rare and true.

It's the gift of a wonderful girl like the one I had in you.

Remembering you on your 30th Birthday.

Love Mum and Dad.

XX X

**in memoriam**

HOPLEY

James

No matter how I spend my days, no matter what I do, there's always a longing in my heart, for yesterday and you.

Loved always, Wife Maureen.

Dad

Although we smile and make no fuss, you're deeply missed by all of us.

Sons Andrew, Julian, Jenny, Deb, Tom, Billy and James.

Uncle

Thanks for the memories, you have left me with a lifetime of them.

Love, Nephew Gary, Lesley and Family in Australia.

MILLINGTON

Stephen

Five years today you went away, to us it seems like yesterday.

They say that time heals, that's not true, we will always love and remember you.

Missed and loved always.

Brokenhearted Mom and Dad.

XXX

SMITH

Gillian Kaye

January 10, 2008

Softly leaves in memory fall, gently I gather and treasure them all, unseen, unheard, you are always near, so missed, so loved, so very dear. Loving Husband Trevor and all the Family.

XXX

**birthdays**

**ROBSON**  
Michelle

Happy 50th Birthday Michelle!

HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY  
All our love from the Family XXX

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Family

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(WOOD LANE, UTTOXETER) (SAT NAV ST14 8BD)

VIA STAFFORD RD/A449 & B5015

**SAT/SUN 9TH & 10TH JANUARY**

**100 + STALLS INSIDE + OUTSIDE PITCHES**

**10AM - 4PM ADM.£1.50**

**CHILDREN FREE**

**PLENTY OF FREE PARKING**

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01782 393660 / 07921 659798



**markets**

**BESCOT SUNDAY MARKET**

**OPEN EVERY SUNDAY**

Banks's Stadium, Walsall FC

WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, J9 M6

07889 975701 All hard standing

**SAUNDERSFOOT Bungalow**

3 Bed, All En suite, Sleeps 8, Central

heating, TV, Video, Washing

machine, Dishwasher, Microwave

Ring Brochure

0121 353 1575

**holidays**

**Saundersfoot Bungalow**

3 Bed, All En suite, Sleeps 8, Central

heating, TV, Video, Washing

machine, Dishwasher, Microwave

Ring Brochure

0121 353 1575

**barmouth**

**ROWEN HOLIDAY PARK**

Barmouth. Quality lodges &

caravans for hire/sale. 01341

24262. [www.rowenpark.com](http://www.rowenpark.com)

**devon**

**PAIGNTON**

The Kingswinford

**JAN - MARCH OFFERS.**

• 3 Nights room only £49pp

• 3 Nights B&B only £59pp

• 3 Nights B&B & 2 Course Evening Meal £84pp

**FAMILY ROOMS AVAILABLE**

CHILD DISCOUNTS

100 yards to beach and pier

Contractors Welcome

01803 558358

[www.kingswinfordhotel.com](http://www.kingswinfordhotel.com)

**caravans / motorhomes**

**BLA CROSS SALE** starts Boxing

Day, caravans from £9995 inc 2016 fees, 12th month season amazing

facilities close Borth beach, pet friendly. Save £££'s Text/call 07494 396264

**ASH RECLAMATION** new and

used building materials, upvc doors

and windows 01543 453254

**CHEAP INDIAN SANDSTONE**

paving from £15.50 per square metre including vat. Choice of colours. Ranton Building Supplies

01543 453260

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your advertising rates?

Reg charly 01902 713712

**Call us now on 01785 760715**

**FREE collection**

**lending**

**loans**

**LOANSATHOME4U - Family Finance.**

**LOANS FROM £200 - £750**

Representative 399.75% APR

Reg Office: Royal House, 100 Station Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO18 0JL

0123 705 7777

[www.loansathome4u.co.uk](http://www.loansathome4u.co.uk)

Compare the rates you have collected

Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

**Contact**

019

**Who do you contact for all your Gas Servicing?**

- Boilers & Central Heating • Annual Services • Fires • Cookers • Landlord Certificates

**Miller Contracts Grp Ltd**  
Plumbing Heating and Property Solutions  
In association with NJ Plumbing and Heating

**GAS PLUMBING & HEATING**  
SAVE UP TO 30% ON ENERGY BILLS

A-Rated condensing Combi Boiler, Digital Stat, Horizontal Flue, up to 7 Radiators.  
Supplied and fitted from £2,495 with up to 10 year warranty (subject to annual servicing).  
**Mob:** 07770652915 or 07774543335 or **Tel:** 01922 682552  
**Email:** info@millercontracts.co.uk **Web:** www.millercontracts.co.uk

## plumbing &amp; heating

**Heating repair man**

(Boiler Breakdown Specialist) .co.uk

Servicing from £40

Breakdowns from £79.99

Landlord certificates CP12

10 years Manufacturer Trained

Fully insured

**07970 310068**

Specialist in boiler repairs

**Vaillant** Glow-worm Ideal **plus others**PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN  
We fit to tanks or larger tanks. We will  
for a quote on: 07521 411108.

## removals

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724**ALL REMOVALS** We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Call Keith on 07867 862227**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your Removals needs. 07429 453209 or 01902 830304 / 01384 940260**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN**, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.**MAN AND VAN:** Local & distance work. Fully insured. Student moves/DIY stores etc. 7 days a week. Please call 07720 206339

## roofing

**CLIFF NICHOLLS**  
Roofing & Scaffolding  
Rubber RoofingAll Roofing and Scaffolding  
Work carried out.

35 years experience

Freephone

**(0800) 220 - 729**

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

## upholstery

**MR B'S UPHOLSTERY**Re-Upholstering of Sofas, Dining Furniture, Caravans, Car Retrims and more. [www.mrbupholstery.co.uk](http://www.mrbupholstery.co.uk)  
**01543 500677**  
**07738 851601**

## ABANDON NOT!

ESTABLISHED OVER 100 YEARS

Your three piece sofa, settee, odd chair etc. re-upholstered or repaired as new. Guaranteed service.

**E MARSH**

Showroom: 11 Winstanley Close, Pountney Lane, W10 4HX 01902 712484/424296

**MORES' UPHOLSTERY**, new foams, re-covering, leather colouring etc. Free quotes. 07581 719054**4**  
Pets & Animals**equestrian corner**

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

**LAURAS TACK BOX** Closing down sale. Starts 28th December, everything must go. Open at 11. WS11 9PU 07949 943933

## gins &amp; dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.**5**  
Business & Farming

## business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

## business directory

## business opportunities

## WORK FROM HOME

Start your own business with the backing of an award winning major British PLC.

Totally flexible \*Earn Extra Income\* Top up the Pension \*Replace your full time income

FOR MORE INFO CALL 07808 211817

**6**  
Property

## mobile homes

**FOR SALE:**  
BRAND NEW PARK HOMETwo bedrooms, quiet residential site in Coventry. **£88,500.**

Telephone 01902 791177

## overseas property

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

## properties wanted

**CASH NOW****WE CAN BEAT ANY PRICE**

- Legal fees paid
- Guaranteed offer
- No fees
- Repossessions stopped
- Any condition

we can  
buy your  
house in**2**  
daysland and commercial enquiries welcome  
**0800 389 6788**  
or 01902 628060 24/7  
wolverhampton properties  
Subject to terms**WE PAY 100%**  
of purchase price

We buy any house

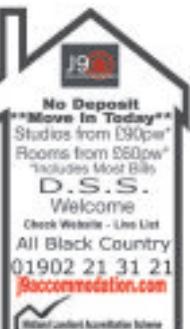
- We are a family run local business.
- Buying properties for over 30 years.
- A fair offer from people you can trust.
- No fees - Free solicitors.
- 30 Years experience

WE ALSO BUY LAND  
commercial and industrial premises, shops, factories, building plots... We will even buy your garden

Text GOAL to 88802 and we will call you back now

**0800 999 999 6**  
or 01902 628047 24/7 **SOLD!****Home Cash Buyer**  
Sell today, sign today, complete when you wish  
**Houses/Land Required**Ring Paul 24/7 local on  
**07870 341 089**Sandwell Area Call 0121 696 4154  
Walsall & Cannock Area Call 01922 432049  
Wolverhampton Call 01902 489001  
[www.homecashbuyer.co.uk](http://www.homecashbuyer.co.uk)

## accommodation to let

Express & Star &  
Shropshire Star**A**  
**BIG**  
thumbs up...

## Field Sales Representatives &amp; Tele-Sales Advisors

The MNA, publishers of the **Express & Star** and **Shropshire Star**, are looking for talented people to join our sales teams across the West Midlands and Shropshire, advising and selling space focused advertising solutions to a range of local businesses across our newspaper and digital portfolio.

## Key Responsibilities and Skills

- Developing a firm business relationship with customers in your territory.
- The ability to generate new business.
- Exceed minimum sales targets.
- Creative and articulate.
- Ability to identify the best advertising opportunities to enhance a customer's response.

## Minimum Experience

A proven track record in sales, preferably in the media industry. A real desire to succeed.

Once fully qualified, you can expect to earn O.T.E circa £30,000 p.a and benefits include a company car for field sales representatives, side by side coaching on site in our academy and excellent career progression for the right candidates.

Please send you C.V. along with a covering letter to:

## Personnel Dept

Midland News Association  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ESOr apply by email to: [personnel@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:personnel@expressandstar.co.uk)

Closing date: January 15th 2016

**SITE TECHNICIAN & GROUNDS PERSON**Grade 4 - 30 hours per week full year to start as soon as possible.  
Hours: 11.30 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for us to recruit a Site Technician and Grounds person to join our school. This is a new important role which will help to ensure the smooth running of the school. We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic, efficient, flexible, committed, friendly person with a wide skill set in general maintenance to join our school.

Responsibilities include:

- Unlocking and securing the premises at agreed times. - Janitorial duties.
- Planning and actioning your daily maintenance work.
- Setting up and clearing away furniture - General portage.
- Ensuring checks i.e. Minibus checks, Fire Alarm, Water Temperature and all Health & Safety checks.
- Carrying out routine maintenance, painting, decorating and to undertake repairs/renovation projects.
- Grass cutting, hedge cutting/trimming, weeding/spraying.
- Drive the school minibus and trailer as and when required. Therefore a clear driving license is essential.
- Link with external contractors when required.
- Attend training courses when required.

To apply for this position please download the application form below and email back to [office@hvh.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@hvh.staffs.sch.uk). All documents are also available to download on the school website [www.hvh.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.hvh.staffs.sch.uk). If you have any queries regarding the vacancy please contact Louise Fox on 01543 423714. Deadline: Monday 11th January 2016 Interview Thursday 14th January 2016.

## 8

## Motoring

## cars over £1500

SELLING  
YOUR CAR?

We have a package to suit every budget.  
Packages start from as little as  
**£21.00 for 6 nights**  
Plus 6 nights free if you do not sell.

## CALL

**01902 317878**

**FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDci Zetec** 2007, 114,000 miles, silver, electric mirrors, air con, diesel, alloys, CD-Ring after 6PM. £2,000 ono. 01922 701389

**MINI COOPER** Convertible 08, Grey, 66k, MoT, M5, FSH, very good condition, 2 previous owners. HPI clear. £5,750 ono. 07540 125379.

## cars under £1500

## ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED

that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

## CHEVROLET TACUMA

2008, 50,000 miles, blue, interior is like new, exterior has a minor scuff on back bumper but very good condition, fully auto, MoT till October. £1,150 ono. 07512 347004.

**FIAT PUNTO** 2005, 54,440 miles, grey, 1.2, electric windows, air bag, fsh, alarm, MoT, pas, 3 door, reliable, £1,075 ono. 07801 242428.

**FORD FIESTA** 1.3L 51 plate, long, MoT, excellent runner, alloys, stereo, £300 no offers.

**RENAULT CLIO** 1.2, 53 reg, excellent condition, new clutch, bargain £550. 07565 857723.

## driving tuition

**L** **Homer's**  
Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.  
**10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!**  
**2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered**  
**MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS**  
**DRIVING, PLANNING & AUTOMATIC**  
ADVISOR REQUIRED. Call or email for info  
**07797 230056 / 01562 870050**  
**01384 234054 / 0121 5640090**  
[www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk](http://www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk)

## motorbikes

**MOPED** kymco agility 50cc registered July 2015, little used only 270 miles, as new, £1,075 ono 07797 42750

## scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/meta for cash.

**MCB**

**TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS**  
**Tel: 01902 408176**  
**1000's of parts available at all times**  
**MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ**

## vehicles wanted

**CROWN MOTORS** guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, 01902 597035.

## 9 Local Information

### public & legal notices

**LICENSING ACT 2003**  
Application has been made by Marston's PLC to the Licensing Authority of Cannock Chase District Council to vary the Premises Licence for the premises at 188-190 High Street, Green, Hesdene, Staffs, WS12 4RT. The application includes the following terms:-  
1. Variation to change the internal and external layout of the premises as per the drawing deposited with the Licensing Authority.  
2. Amend occupancy conditions and remove unenforceable narrative. Full details of the Application and the drawing can be viewed at the offices of the Licensing Authority at Cannock Chase District Council, Civic Centre, Cannock, WS11 1RR.  
Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1RR. The responsible authority or any other person can make written representations to the Licensing Authority at any time up to and including 21st January 2016 ([www.cannockchase.gov.uk](http://www.cannockchase.gov.uk)).  
It is an offence for anyone knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with a Licence Application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is unlimited.  
Dated this: 22nd December 2015  
John Gaunt & Partners, Solicitors



ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(a)  
THE A5 TRUNK ROAD, (WEST OF CANNOCK, STAFFORDSHIRE)  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company no. 9346363) has made an Order on the A5 Trunk Road, west of Cannock in the County of Staffordshire, to allow lighting column replacement works to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to close the westbound carriageway of the A5 (Watling Street) from its roundabout junction with the A4601 (Wolverhampton Road/Avon Road) to its roundabout junction with the slip roads leading to and from the M6 at Junction 12.

The work will be carried out over one night between 20:30 hours and 05:00 hours and is expected to start on Wednesday 20th January 2016. The Order will come into force on 13 January 2016.

Vehicles being used by the emergency services and vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closure.

A diversion route via A4601 and M6 Junction 11 will be signed. For further information please contact Leonard Murray on 01922 318999.

Karen Eustace, an officer in Highways England Company Limited. Highways England Company Limited (Company no. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A Company registered in England and Wales.



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**Express & Star**



### LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on 01902 713146  
or email [marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk)

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

## 10 Personals

### general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully advise you that it is your responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Dated this: 22nd December 2015

John Gaunt & Partners, Solicitors

### Aerials

## RUGELEY AERIALS & SATELLITE SYSTEMS

CCTV-CAT 5, AERIALS INSTALLED, SKY/FREESAT BOXES AND DISHES SUPPLIED AND FITTED

SURROUND SOUND • PLASMA/LCD TV'S INSTALLED AND WALL MOUNTED • MOTORISED SATELLITE SYSTEMS AND EUROPEAN STATIONS

ESTABLISHED SINCE 1960

CONTACT US FOR SERVICE, RELIABILITY AND COST

**FREE Sky HD Box - Sky HD + Boxes in stock**

For all NEW customers, Terms & conditions apply



**A BUSINESS BUILT ON RECOMMENDATION**

**TEL: RUGELEY 01889 585481**

**aerial AV**  
custom installs  
[www.aerialav.co.uk](http://www.aerialav.co.uk)  
T: 01543 578230  
M: 07866 674839

• Free estimate and call out  
• Digital aerial & satellite installations  
• HDMI distribution  
• WiFi & internet points  
• Internet smart TV points  
• TV wall installations & bespoke cabling  
• Home cinema & audio systems

Call Lee Forrester for further information  
Tel: 01785 630119 or 01543 578230  
Mob: 07866 674839  
[www.aerialav.co.uk](http://www.aerialav.co.uk) Email: Lee@aerialav.co.uk

### Aerial Installation & Repairs

#### TV & Plasma Set Up

Digital Aerial Upgrades & Plasma TV Installation  
Aerials Start From Just £65

Call **Prisma CCTV**  
**01785 243500**  
**07730 260862**  
**ALL WORK GUARANTEED**

• Free estimates • No call out charge  
• Freeview • Sky Digital • Digital Aerials  
• CCTV Design and Install  
Commercial work undertaken,  
covering all areas

Home theatre systems fitted

### CANNOCK/RUGELEY DIGITAL AERIAL SERVICES

**caii**  
Your local Registered Installer  
Digital Aerials Fitted & Repaired  
Satellite Systems Installed • TV/DVD/Tuning  
Senior Citizen Discounts 5yrs Guarantee  
Same Day Service  
"Job Done Right 1st Time  
Honest & Reliable Family business"  
Call Dave

**CANNOCK**  
**01543 274777** | **RUGELEY**  
**01889 587000**

To advertise your business and reach more than 82,000 potential customers...



Call us on...  
**01543 465341**



E-mail us at...  
[Sarah.winfield.jones@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:Sarah.winfield.jones@expressandstar.co.uk)



Post to...  
Sarah Jones, Cannock Chronicle,  
Queen Square, Cannock, WS11 1ES

# Local Specialists

### Accountancy

#### ACCOUNTANCY AND TAXATION

Self Assessment and all accountancy services for the self employed, partnerships and limited companies.

A prompt and reliable service at a sensible cost

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**01543 481329**

Email: [ollerenshaw@btinternet.com](mailto:ollerenshaw@btinternet.com) [www.ollerenshaw.co.uk](http://www.ollerenshaw.co.uk)

Evening appointments not a problem

### Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesmen to deal with your needs and requirements.

### Blinds & Curtains

#### Blinds4Less

Leaving a good impression!

Choose from a fantastic range!  
-Pleated -Venetians  
-Romans -Curtains  
-Verticals -Awnings  
-Rollers -Shutters

New 3 Year Guarantee on Blinds and up to 10 Year Guarantee on Shutters

Give us a try before you buy!

Contact us on  
01543 226104  
07989 588728  
[Blinds4lessdirect.com](http://Blinds4lessdirect.com)

**TaxAssist Accountants**  
The Accountancy and Tax Service for Small Business

#### YOUR LOCAL CANNOCK BASED ACCOUNTANT

ALL ACCOUNTANCY WORK UNDERTAKEN INCLUDING:

• Self employed • Rental property's • CIS contractors

• Limited companies • Lots more

FOR A FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

**CALL: 01922 744955**

[bakshohayer@taxassist.co.uk](mailto:bakshohayer@taxassist.co.uk)

[www.taxassist.co.uk/cannock](http://www.taxassist.co.uk/cannock)

Made to measure blinds  
**Ace Blinds (UK)**

Verticals Roller Venetian Wood Slat Roman  
**NO OBLIGATION FREE QUOTATION**  
Free fitting Wide fabric choice Fast local service

Tel: 01543 378349 Mob: 07758 193415

## AB-Blinds

[www.ab-blinds.co.uk](http://www.ab-blinds.co.uk)

7 Child safe Verticals  
Fitted from Only

**£199**

Great Deals On All Other Blinds. Wide Range available  
Any Genuine Quote Beaten  
Conservatory & Curved Blind Specialist

Free Phone 0800 0347111

### Appliance Repairs



## APPLIANCE DOCTOR (CANNOCK)

Having problems with your dish washer, Fan Oven, automatic washer, tumble dryer, electric cooker, fridge or freezer?

Then book a call with a specialist engineer with 35 years experience today on

**07552 421508**

**07976 918276**

[www.appliancedoctorcannock.co.uk](http://www.appliancedoctorcannock.co.uk)

### Builders Merchants

#### Vine Builders Merchants

OVER 10 DIFFERENT TYPES OF BEAUTIFUL DECORATIVE GRAVEL IN STOCK

Washed Concrete Sand £28

Hard Core Mot £28

Ballast £28, Cement £4 per bag

10mm & 20mm Gravel

Timber Sleepers Timber Decking

Fencing, Top Soil

TANALISED TIMBER NOW IN STOCK

PLASTIC DRAINAGE PIPES & FITTINGS

Walkmill Lane, Bridgtown, Cannock WS11 0LN 01543 579559

\* STAIN REMOVAL

\* CURTAINS

\* HARD FLOORS

\* FABRIC PROTECTION

\* PET ODOURS etc ...

15 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
ALL WORK FULLY INSURED

CALL YOUR LOCAL FRIENDLY

PROFESSIONALS ON

**07976 526 848**

**Local Specialists**

# Local Specialists



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**Wet and dry plastering, boarding, stud work, rendering, tiling, painting and decorating**

- ★ Garage Conversions ★ Loft Conversions
- ★ Extensions ★ Doors and Windows
- ★ Fascias and Guttering ★ Landscaping
- ★ Electrics and Plumbing ★ Plastering
- ★ Block Paving

### All Building Work Undertaken

67 Redwood Drive,  
Burntwood, Staffordshire  
07854 544516 or 01543 304174  
Email:nigel@nbbuildingservices.com  
www.nbbuildingservices.com



## Hartshorne Builders

Established 52 years

All Aspects of Building Work Undertaken

### FOR A FREE QUOTE, CALL NICK

**Tel: 01543 422939  
Mobile: 07899 955360**



REFURBISHMENTS  
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE  
CARPENTRY & PLASTERING  
EXTENSIONS - ALTERATIONS  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

**01543 571 633 OR 07976 973 512**  
PMURPHYLTD@HOTMAIL.COM

## Carpentry

## CW Joinery

DOOR SUPPLIERS AND FITTERS  
**PVC NOW AVAILABLE**

6 Internal, pre painted doors fully fitted for £375 complete with Handles

- External doors supplied and fitted from £210
- Fit only, Paint or Stain available
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- Pine, oak, hardwood doors available

Freephone 0800 019 3376  
01922 709543

## Decorating



**Any Size Room**

**£149 Inc. Paint  
(Woodwork Extra)**

City and Guilds Advanced and NVQ Level 3



## Driveways



Concrete imprint specialists  
Tarmac and Drop Kerbs (Council Approved)  
Digger Hire and Groundworks

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**Mob: 07976 821 343**

[www.1stchoiceconcrete ltd.co.uk](http://www.1stchoiceconcrete ltd.co.uk)

## J.P. JOSLIN BLOCK PAVING

**Tarmac** and all aspects of landscaping  
**Fully Insured**

Free advice and quotations  
All work guaranteed

**Telephone 01543 676904**



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### DOUBLE GLAZING SERVICES

Misted units replaced, lock and general repairs to doors patios and windows. Emergency lock call out. 30 years experience. The longest established and only repair specialist in the area

Call: Mark Capewell  
Call 01889 578654 or  
Mobile 07802 277935



### THE WINDOW MAN CANNON

Misted Up, Cloudy or Broken Down

#### Double Glazed Units Replaced From £25

5 Year Manufacturers Guarantee  
**All Window and Door Repairs**

Windows, French Doors, Patio Doors

**Stunning Coloured Composite Doors**

For a Free Quote or Advice Please Call  
**01543 271961 or 07530 439314**

### WINDOW SERVICES Hednesford

#### GLASS REPLACEMENT (MISTED, CLOUDY, BROKEN)

All patterns, leads designs and Georgians  
5 Year Manufacturers guarantee

Glass from £30, Window Hinges from £40, Door Locks from £100  
Repairs to windows, doors & conservatories

Composite doors available (all colours)

20 YEARS EXPERIENCE & HIGH STANDARD WORK

Call Mark on 07983 704639 or

01543 425219 for a free quote

**WINDOW DOCTOR**

GLAZING REPAIRS & LOCKSMITHS,  
SERVICE & REPAIR FOR ALL DOORS & WINDOWS.

MISTY & BROKEN GLASS REPLACED.

WE REPAIR HANDLES, HINGES, SEALS, PATIO'S WINDOW & DOOR LOCKS,  
CONSERVATORY & GUTTERING LEAKS REPAIRED.

10 YR GUARANTEE

01543 504900 24 HRS

07748 108035

12 WELLINGTON DRIVE, CANNON W8 11 1PU

Est 30 years

**Electricians**



**bright light electrical solutions**

Keeping YOU switched ON!

Call now for a free quote.

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**Installation** **maintenance** **testing**

### S. TOLLEY Qualified Electrician

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\* No Call Out Charges  
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Home rewiring from £800  
For a high quality local service call:  
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07939 503905  
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### B.J. FENCING SUPPLIES

Members of Guild of Mastercraftsmen

#### WINTER SALE OF FEATHEREDGE PANELS + GATES - WHILE STOCKS LAST

Up to 30% lower prices than most other major suppliers, Builders Merchants etc.

Sizes	6' x 6'	6' x 5'	6' x 4'	6' x 3'	6' x 2'	Gates
Each	£23	£21	£19	£17	£14	£13
20+	£21	£19	£17	£14	£11	£25

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# Motoring Experts

## Saddlers 'a team full of leaders' claims boss

HEAD coach Sean O'Driscoll believes Walsall's promotion-chasing side is packed with players who lead by example.

A 2-0 Bank Holiday Monday victory over Peterborough ensured the Saddlers hit the halfway point in League One sitting happily on top of the division – and making it a hat-trick of victories for O'Driscoll since he replaced Dean Smith at the Banks's Stadium.

The impressive result came just 48 hours after the Saddlers had secured another important victory at Millwall with the new head coaching praising the battling qualities of his side.

"We have got a captain (Adam Chambers) who at 35 plays like a 25-year-old," O'Driscoll said.

"He is a different class but we have a few characters in the dressing room who are really influential. Sometimes you can scream and shout on the pitch and it goes in one ear and out the other."

"I think if people are cool, calm and say good things then others listen. Paul Downing, is the same, James O'Connor and Romaine Sawyers too."

"We have a few characters who are really influential and say the right things rather than just saying things for the sake of it."

With Tom Bradshaw currently sidelined, O'Driscoll has moved winger Milan Lalkovic into a striking role and the former Doncaster Rovers and Nottingham Forest boss has been pleased with the way the former Chelsea man has adjusted to his new role.

"He will frustrate because you never know what he is going to do," O'Driscoll said. "But I think he has looked a constant threat."

## Demetriou: It's in our own hands now

SADDLERS full-back Jason Demetriou says belief of automatic promotion is growing among his teammates.

The Cyprus international said victory over a strong Peterborough United side highlighted Saddlers' togetherness as they maintained their position at the League One summit.

"It's a great feeling as we are starting to believe a little bit more," said the 28-year-old. "We know it is in our hands. The squad, the staff and the people around the club, this is a good place to be and we are doing it all together as a group, as a collection. There are no individuals. It's a massive team effort and now we have to keep going."

Demetriou also hailed the approach of new boss Sean O'Driscoll. "Sean has come in and hasn't changed too much."

# Magpie Mike could wing way back



Mike Williamson signs on loan for Wolves

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett has confirmed the club is back in for Newcastle centre-half Mike Williamson.

The 32-year-old enjoyed a productive five-game loan spell at Molineux before being recalled by Magpies chief Steve McClaren.

However, Newcastle seem prepared to allow Williamson to leave the club on a permanent deal in January. Williamson is currently sidelined with a hamstring injury that has prevented him appearing

for Newcastle since his recall, but will return to fitness shortly.

And Jackett said there had been initial talks between the two clubs.

"There have been discussions," he said. "He is someone we're interested in – we were pleased with him on loan."

"Again, he is someone we're interested in, but nothing's been concluded in terms of what Newcastle want to do, discussions are at an early stage. He's still recovering from his hamstring injury

and would estimate he may still be a fortnight away from full fitness."

It is believed he is available for a nominal fee – and with Williamson is thought to be keen on a return to Wolves.

Williamson has been at Newcastle for six years but has fallen down the pecking order, and with Steven Taylor returning to fitness in January McClaren will again have sufficient cover at centre-half. The defender is out of contract at St James' Park next summer.

## New deal in pipeline for man of the moment

WOLVES look set to reward man of the moment Jordan Graham with a new contract.

The winger has been a revelation since coming into the team towards the end of the 2105. In his first eight appearances he provided six assists – and scored his first goal in Wolves colours during the 2-0 Bank Holiday victory over Charlton Athletic.

Graham's existing deal technically runs out this summer, although Wolves have the option of automatically extending it by a year. However, bosses hope to ward off circling Premier League vultures by tying Graham to a longer-term deal, with talks believed to be ongoing.

The 20-year-old, who moved from West Midlands rivals Villa last January, looks to have finally solved Wolves' problem left-wing slot, with seven players tried in Bakary Sako's old position this season before Graham made his debut at Ipswich.

Graham said he was loving life in the Wolves first team – and that hard work was behind his prolific assists record.

"I'm really enjoying it," he said. "Quite a lot of it is down to my crossing and set-pieces which I do work hard on every day on the training pitch. It's nice to know that your hard work pays off."

"I love football, ever since I was a kid I love playing every day, I never get bored of it, I'm just embracing playing every game. I'll keep working on my set-pieces, my deliveries, my goals."

"The support for me has been amazing since I made my debut, the fans have taken to me. Hopefully I can push on."

# Seagulls grounded as Wolves battle on

**THIS is getting a bit silly now. Just 11 days before dishevelled Wolves were hammered 4-1 at Hillsborough.**

They couldn't defend for toffee, morale was on the floor, Kenny Jackett – under real pressure for his job – talked explicitly of needing 'help'.

Three games, three wins and three clean sheets later, Wolves' season may have been transformed.

Again Wolves spent long periods on the back foot, and again Jordan Graham provided an assist, and yet again they were triumphant.

Credit to Jackett who, with the same group of players that couldn't buy a win a couple of weeks ago, has gone back to basics to grind out three priceless victories.

Brighton had gone winless in five, their worst run of the campaign, and began the match like a side intent on ending that streak. Wolves' back four, so resolute since that recent horror show at Sheffield Wednesday, was put under severe pressure in the early stages, but held firm.

### Respite

Manchester United loan striker James Wilson – a player openly courted by Wolves – appeared to vomit on the pitch before kick off, but that didn't stop him troubling the Wolves defence.

Ethan Ebanks-Landell tracked Wilson to get in a goal-saving tackle just five minutes in, and then three minutes later the same defender blocked Wilson's shot.

With 12 minutes gone there was respite in the form of a quick counter-attack – Dominic Iorfa intercepted the ball and played it to James Henry, who slipped in Benik Afobe, but his shot was blocked by David Stockdale.

Graham, meanwhile, had been kept quiet for the first half an hour, barely touching the ball. But on 32 minutes he came to life – and Wolves were in front.

The 20-year-old winger beat his man and sent a left-footed cross to the near post, which Wolverhampton-born Connor Goldson deflected past his own keeper. A horrible moment for Goldson, who was with Wolves as a youth player.

As expected Brighton came out of the traps at the start of the second half, but despite Brighton's dominance Wolves stayed resolute.

## Bjorn again for Siggy comeback



Comeback for Bjorn Sigurdarson after being sidelined with a serious back injury

BJORN Sigurdarson made an unlikely comeback in a Wolves shirt after two-and-a-half years away and declared: "It felt amazing."

The Icelandic striker's Wolves career looked to be over just a few months ago. He was sidelined with a serious back injury and boss Kenny Jackett suggested he would have to look for a new club when fit again.

But circumstances have led to

Sigurdarson coming back into the fold – and he played 23 minutes in Wolves' 1-0 win at Brighton on Friday after replacing James Henry.

"I have been waiting a long time to get the opportunity and to be back out in that shirt and on the field was amazing," the 24-year-old said. "It feels like it's been way too long, and I am happy to be back. "I have been working

with the physios and the coaching staff to get me back playing some minutes and working really hard to try to get back out there."

Sigurdarson, signed for £2.4m from Lillestrom by Stale Solbakken in 2012, last played for Wolves in December 2013.

"It feels like I have a second chance now, and I have to take that chance and make something out of it," he added.

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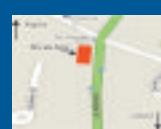
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## Cons are plotting a hat-trick of triumphs

**WEDNESFIELD** Cons A have a hat-trick of Aldridge Snooker League Premier Division League Cup triumphs in their sights after progressing into the semi-finals.

A commanding 4-1 success at home to Aldridge Cons A saw Wednesfield book their place in the last four of a competition they have won for the last two years.

Aldridge Cons' B team now stand between Wednesfield and another final outing.

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The match of the round saw runaway Premier Division leaders St Johns entertain their closest league rivals, Cannock Cons B.

And it was St Johns who hit top form as they comprehensively ended Cannock's cup bid with an emphatic 4-1 success.

Q Bar A will line up against St Johns in the semi-final after thrashing Landywood A 4-1 away from home.

In the Division One League Cup, Aldridge Cons C shocked league leaders Bentley Moor A when they confidently booked their semi-final berth with a 4-1 home victory.

Facing Aldridge Cons C in the last four will be Darlaston Cons, who despatched Victoria B 4-1 away from home.

Wednesfield Cons B are still in the hunt for silverware after shocking second in the league Stafford Road B 4-1 away.

Bentley Moor B are next up for Wednesfield following a hard-fought success against Lichfield Road BC. Tom Swain won the deciding frame to seal a 3-2 win for Bentley.

## Blues winger Gray tempted away by Foxes

**PREMIER** League title chasers Leicester City have completed the signing of Demarai Gray from Blues for an undisclosed fee.

Leicester have moved quickly to follow up their summer interest in the highly-rated 19-year-old.

Gray, who has signed a four-and-a-half-year deal at the King Power Stadium, said: "It's a great club. The facilities are great and it's an ideal place for me to improve."

He could go straight into the Leicester squad for their FA Cup third-round tie against Tottenham at White Hart Lane on Sunday.

Gray was left out of Blues' squad for their Championship game at home to Brentford on Saturday and underwent a medical prior to Leicester's clash with Bournemouth, who were also interested in the England Under-20 international.

# Extra Christmas gift for Lewis

STEVE Broome (Bilston Angling Centre) hit top gear to claim the spoils with the Wolverhampton AA Christmas Open staged on the Staffs & Worcs Canal in Wombourne.

Drawn on peg six, the Dudley-based mechanic swept away the opposition with an unbeatable 15-0 net of club and perch, snared on pole-fished chopped worm and caster.

Over 11lb adrift in second place came Neil Turner (Wolverhampton AA VDE) with 10-5-0 from peg one towards the picnic area at Bratch Locks. Dave Holbrook (Brownhills) was third with 7-1-0 from peg four.

The Metro Bridge length of the Walsall Canal in

Wombourne saw action during the 18-entry Sportsman AC open. And it was Dave Sheaf (Canal Kings) who emerged victorious from peg four with 4-14-0 of punch-roach.

Rugeley's Paul Truman claimed second place in the Bank Holiday open staged at the Heronbrook fisheries complex at Standon, near Eccleshall. Truman netted 87-12-0 of pellet-tempted quality F1s to 4lb from Canal peg eight.

It was a close call for top billing at the Patshull Park open held on the Hotel Bank and Deeps Sections of the Great Lake in Pattingham but Bridgeman's Roger Park held his nerve to grab the glory. Fishing the slider with pellet and pinkie, he netted

13-3-0 of bream to 3lb from Deeps peg 35. Wednesday-based stillwater specialist Kevin Tipton (Seniors) had to contend himself with the runner-up slot on Deeps peg 39 with a haul of 13-0.

Penkridge-based Barry Lewis netted an extra Christmas present when he won the Goodyear AC contest on the Railway Section of the Staffs & Worcs Canal in Stade Heath. Lewis drew Golden peg four where he fished the whip and long pole with bread punch for a 9-1-15 top weight of roach to 6oz.

That was also enough to see him finish second overall in the league and pick up a combined pay-out of almost £200. Drawn on neighbouring peg three, Michael Thomson followed with 5-4-4.

## Grassroots funding is a boost to football clubs

FOOTBALL clubs in Bilbrook and Walsall are among those to have been handed cash towards grassroots projects.

In all, some 17 grants worth more than £1.8million were awarded from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund between June and December across the whole of the West Midlands. The grants will go towards grassroots facility projects worth £2.8m.

Bilbrook FC was awarded £484,529 of its £844,529 cost of new changing pavilion and works to natural grass pitches.

Walsall Phoenix FC will use its £6,131 award to replace unsafe goalposts and towards the refurbishment of its changing pavilion/clubhouse. The total cost of the project is £12,639.

Funding from the PL/FA/FF goes towards building new or refurbishing existing floodlit 3G pitches and changing rooms. The fund also provides smaller grants for vital improvements, such as replacing unsafe goalposts and purchasing pitch maintenance equipment.

Tracey Crouch MP, Minister for Sport, said: "Improving grassroots football facilities is vital to help us get more people involved in the game."

FA chief executive Martin Glenn said: "The number of grants approved over the past six months is testimony to our commitment to the pursuit of better grassroots football facilities in this country."

Football Foundation chief executive Paul Thorogood said: "This continued investment is improving the capacity and quality of local facilities for people who play sports purely for the love of it."

# Sorry Saddlers fall to deserved defeat

**Walsall 0 Rochdale 3**

**A BLIP.** A setback. A bad day at the office. Whatever you want to call it, 2016 got off to a hugely-disappointing start for promotion-chasing Walsall.

For the first time this season, the Saddlers were comfortably and deservedly beaten as Rochdale left the Banks's with three League One points.

Huge credit must go to Keith Hill's side, with the manager saying in his post-match comments that this performance was the best his team has produced in his combined seven years in charge.

But as good as the Dale were, there is no denying Walsall were not at the races.

From the first minute the tone was set. Inside 15 seconds, Walsall lost the ball, allowing in-form striker to Ian Henderson to power a strike at goal which Neil Etheridge tipped over the bar.

From the resultant corner, Andrew Cannon hooked an angled drive that sailed inches past the upright.

It only took two more minutes before Rochdale did break the deadlock, with Henderson tapping home a low cross.

### Hampered

Flying out the blocks, Hill's plan was clear. Press high, tackle hard and stop Walsall moving forward at all costs. Yet Walsall were unable to find the answers and appeared hampered by the decision of head coach Sean O'Driscoll to employ a 4-1-3-2 system.

The new boss has enjoyed a spectacular start since taking over from Dean Smith with three wins in his opening three games.

But here the formation didn't work with Walsall devoid of options whenever in possession.

Full-backs Andy Taylor and Jason Demetriou found the going particularly tough and were often forced to pump the ball long in a bid to find a red shirt.

Unable to get on the ball, Romaine Sawyers dropped deep to try and make something happen.

Rochdale had harried, pressed and not once allowed the Saddlers to settle. Nevertheless, other teams have tried the same tactic only to see Walsall pop the ball around them as players find space between the lines.

O'Driscoll switched to a 4-1-4-1 formation at the break, yet his team still found themselves



George Evans on the receiving end of a strong Rochdale tackle as the Saddlers fall to defeat at the Banks's

second best all over the park. It meant when Calvin Andrew scored twice, the scoreline didn't flatter the visitors.

The statistics afterwards spoke for themselves with Walsall managing just three shots – none of which were on target. In contrast, Rochdale had 15 attempts, 11 of which were dealt with by the outstanding Neil Etheridge who was the only reason this wasn't an even heavier defeat. There are mitigating circumstances.

This was Walsall's fifth game in 19 days, while Rochdale have played just three in that time. And in the Saddlers' four league defeats this season, this was the first time they didn't deserve at least a point.

A bad day at the office, yes, but every Walsall fan knows the team has been fantastic throughout the 2015/16 campaign. They have also bounced back with a win following each of their previous three league defeats.

## Villa eye up a move for Niasse guy

**STRIKER** Oumar Niasse is believed to be on Villa's radar as Remi Garde looks to overhaul his squad in time to keep them in the Premier League.

The Lokomotiv Moscow forward is currently enjoying a prolific season in Russia, scoring 12 goals in 21 appearances. Capped five times by Senegal, Niasse can play out wide or as a centre forward.

But Villa are likely to face competition for the 25-year-old with Chelsea, Everton and Newcastle also reported to be keen.

It's believed Lokomotiv have slapped a £15 million price tag on Niasse who is known for his pace, strength and high work-rate.

Another potential target could be centre-back Wily Boly – a 6ft 3in former France under-16, under-17 and under-19 international, currently playing in Portugal with Braga.

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# Sport

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## Boss denies Rams raid for ace Afobe

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett insists there hasn't been a single enquiry made for Benik Afobe, despite rumours of Championship rivals Derby County mounting a bid.

Afobe is likely to be courted throughout the window, with Norwich City and Newcastle United known to be keeping tabs on the situation. But Jackett said not a single phonecall had been made to ask about Afobe.

"We've had no calls about Benik," he said. "We haven't had a call from Derby, we haven't had an inquiry, we haven't had a bid."

"If it is coming, nothing's happened yet. We want to try to improve (the team) and move on if we can."

Afobe has played a different role of late with Wolves going safety-first to protect their fragile backline, leaving the keeper often isolated up front.

"As a side it's been needs must," said Jackett.

"He's been committed, worked hard and showed a good attitude and generally dug in."

"It very much depends if you can get the two wide men close to him."

"It sets out as a 4-3-3, with two in the midfield capable of joining quickly, there's potentially four players that can join that one single forward. As you get driven back, needs must, you have to defend, and that's where we've been."

Jordan Graham is rated 50/50 for Saturday's trip to West Ham with an ankle injury.

Carl Ikeme suffered with cramp at the end of the Brighton win, for which his performance earned him a place in the Football League team of the week.

Jackett added of his keeper: "His leadership in recent games has been very good. He's proud to play for Wolves and I think he's shown that."

## Maximum exposure for Wolves rider Clegg at open day

NEW signing Max Clegg will meet with Wolves speedway supporters as he attends the open day of club sponsors Parry's International on Sunday.

Clegg will be present from 10am until 3pm at the company's Landywood Green base in Cheslyn Hay alongside club bosses Chris Van Straaten and Peter Adams. They will be presented with their Elite League Track of the Year award and will be available to talk with supporters.

Young gun Clegg, who will return to the top flight with the Monmore Green club in 2016, said: "I'm really looking forward to travelling down and hopefully seeing plenty of Wolves fans there."

"It will be good to get the chance to see some of the fans before the season starts and I hope there will be a good turnout to support Parry's."

Award-winning coach operators and long-standing club sponsors Parry's will have their Coach of the Year on display whilst representatives from hotel providers, a traditional wine grower and London's latest West End Shows will be in attendance.

## Seagulls wings clipped by Wolves

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## Saddlers slide to deserved defeat

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## I can take the heat, swears Jackett

### Football

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett says he's fully aware of the criticism he gets from fans – but is thick-skinned enough to deal with it.

Jackett has come in for strong verbal attacks this season, especially on social media.

And while admitting he takes his job home with him and that his family probably suffer as a result, he said he never forgets the privileged position he's in.

"You do definitely take it home with you," he said. "I enjoy my job, I enjoy being in management."

"I know that if you want to be in it you can't win all the time, but you don't lose all the time

either. Do my family suffer? Probably. But it's a privilege to be in it, particularly at a club like Wolves."

"Wolves is a massive club and a great club and it's a privilege to be in this position, you should never forget that. I value it and enjoy it."

Jackett enjoyed a honeymoon period for the first two years of his Wolves tenure, with the team winning League One and then exceeding expectations to narrowly miss out on the play-offs. This season has been a different story.

The Wolves boss added of any abuse he gets: "You definitely know what's going on, you're aware of it. You'll stop at a petrol station and somebody will tell you, so you do know."

"I accept that the better you do or higher up you go, the more focus there is."

"One goes with the other and it's something I accept, and would prefer it that way."

"My dad was a professional footballer. When I was 16 and came into it he said it was a tough life but a great life, and he said you need to be very thick-skinned. And he played in the 1950s."

"And he went on the train with the fans, on the way back (after a game), that's the way it was."

## DEFENDER OUT TO DOWN BEES

**DEFENDER** Paul Downing has promised Walsall will not be distracted by the hype of factoring former boss Dean Smith in the FA Cup.

Saturday's third round clash sees the Saddlers take on their former manager who swapped the Banks's Stadium for Griffin Park just six weeks ago.

In almost five years in charge, Smith was a key figure in implementing the philosophy that has seen Walsall grow into League One promotion contenders.

Yet Downing insists the players are not fazed by meeting their former boss and instead are fully focused on claiming their third Championship scalp of the season, having previously beaten Nottingham Forest and Brighton in the League Cup.

"I am looking forward to seeing him but most importantly we want to keep going in the cup – the game is a great occasion for us to showcase our ability," the defender said.

### Pressure

"Everyone is looking forward to going down there because, being a Championship side, the pressure is on them."

"Afterwards it will be nice to see him and (assistant boss) Richard O'Kelly."

"But when the game kicks off, we will concentrating on trying to win a place in the fourth round."

Despite being desperate to beat him, Downing is quick to admit Smith has been an influential figure in his career.

"I owe him massively," the 24-year-old said. "As do a lot of players here."

"He gave me an opportunity after I was released by West Brom and put faith in me."

"I have played a lot of games since I joined Walsall and I think I have improved greatly."

"He has to take a lot of credit for that."

The trip to Griffin Park could see star performers Tom Bradshaw and Rico Henry return to the Saddlers starting XI.

The pair came off the bench in Saturday's 3-0 loss to Rochdale. Downing said: "It's massive to have them back."

## Scholars find their way back



Eze does it as Henry goes on a run in the middle of the park for the Scholars

### Loughborough Dynamo 2 Chasetown 3

CHASETOWN staged a remarkable second-half comeback to gain all three points at second-bottom Loughborough Dynamo thanks to a last-minute strike from George Washbourne.

Just a month ago, the Scholars had trounced their opponents 9-1.

This time, the hosts took the lead after eight minutes when Leandro Browne's effort at the near post deflected past keeper John Bateman.

Chasetown twice went close to levelling.

First, Simon Brown's free kick was missed by keeper James Martin but Ryan Wynter was

unable to stretch to head into an empty net. Then, Paul Sullivan fired a low drive that Martin dived low to his left to save.

Dynamo doubled their lead when Browne went tumbling inside the box and Bamoussa Cisse fired the penalty into the roof of the net.

Chasetown reduced the deficit when Mike Williams was fouled by Alvin Jarvis and Simon Brown confidently dispatched the spot-kick.

Sullivan levelled with a crisp finish from a superb through ball from James Dance.

Brown wasted a golden opportunity when he blazed a second penalty over the bar.

However, in the final minute of normal time, George Washbourne calmly slotted home.

## Anger over Pitmen game cancellation

ANGRY AFC Telford United managing director Lee Carter hit out at the National League, claiming they have shown his side 'no respect' in the postponement of the league clash with Hednesford Town.

The Bucks were due to welcome the Pitmen for the return clash of their festive double-header but lost Saturday's match – which adds spice with former Hednesford boss Rob Smith now in charge at Telford – fell victim to the weather. A waterlogged pitch was cited as the reason for postponement. It has been re-arranged for next Tuesday, January 12.

Saturday's postponement prompted the Telford hierarchy to react with frustration at the decision to pull the key relegation battle fixture.

Carter took to social media to reveal his disappointment with the league's governing body.

"The @NationalLeague respect agenda really is a one way thing. Today's ref has shown no respect to our club today," Carter posted.

The club were further disappointed as early calls on Saturday morning had been made for supporters to help shift any standing water on the New Bucks Head surface. Fans had spent the morning forked the pitch to get the game on and pictures posted of the ground appeared to show it playable.

But it's understood the match referee decided to call the game off from home, without even inspecting it.

As well as losing the date they wanted to play, the Bucks were also hit in the pocket, as a weekend derby would have meant a larger gate, a bigger away support and more bar takings.

The Bucks have already seen a large drop in attendances over the last six months.

## Payne signs on for new boss Sinclair

HEDNESFORD TOWN have signed Shelton Payne from Ramsbottom United.

The tricky winger worked under new Pitmen boss Frank Sinclair at Colwyn Bay in 2013, scoring four goals in the final six games to help guide the club to safety.

The 26-year-old started this season with Salford City after helping FC United of Manchester win promotion last season.

"This is a big chance for Shelton to show the ability he has and fulfil that potential," said Sinclair. "I'm looking forward to working with him again."

\*\*\*

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Thursday, January 7, 2016

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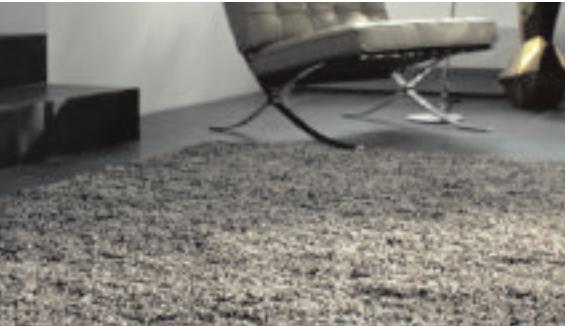
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